Providence Sept. 3d. 1756.

Sir

I received Yours by George who got here well on Sunday the 22d. of August, as to the sum of Money due to Mr. Hanson have laid it before the General Assembly who have orderd money for paying it, but how we shall get it into silver I know not but expect if no other method offers we must apply so much of the Sterling money now in New York to that purpose as soon as it can be received you may assure Mr. Hanson that all Diligence shall be used to pay him as soon as possible.

As to Mr. Commissary Emersons Account I have no knowledge about it having never seen it to my knowledge & if he expects it to be Settled he must Transmitt it to this Col=:ony for that Purpose when Justice shall be done him. You may informe the Gentlem. who spoke to you about Mollosses that it cannot be pur=:chas'd here for less than 2/8 Pr. Gall. New York Currency to which a small Freight must be added and if it will suit him on those Terms shall be Glad to supply him. Tents Kittles Blank=:ets &c for the Recruits are sent round in Tillinghast Sloop together with Rum Sugar

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Butter Cheese and Cloathing Concerning which I have wrote you before. The Massachusetts and Connecticut account of making a New Road must be sent here to be laid before our General Assembly if they Expect us to pay any part of it together with the reasons why we ought to do so after that is done I shall be able to give them an Answer.

The Manner of Returning our Carts must be Determin'd by the Contract made with them and sign'd before they went away one part of which they have with them and can show to you if I remember it Right we were to return their Carts by Water in the same manner they were Carried which indeed cannot be much Expence when we have empty Transports coming Home, on Board which you will do well to put them as fast as they become useless, as also all such small Arms as are not Likely to be us'd any more and if there be any such not at Albany they shou'd be order'd down by the Returning Carts I forgot to inform you in the proper place that I received both your Letters of the 22^{d} of August so that I believe our Letters are now pretty Regularly conveyed,

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last week I wrote you no letter being abroad at the Assembly.

The Fatal News of the loss of the Fort and Garrison with all the Vessels and Stores at Oswego hath Reach'd us, and Struck every body with Amazement, nobody here being able to imagine how in so short a Time it Could be deliver'd to the French with any manner of Decency, and on the other hand every one shudders at the thoughts of the Horrid Conse=quences that must unavoidably follow but no one knows what Remedy can be applied to so Desperate a Misfortune

The General Assembly of this Colony were Sitting when I received the Earl of Loudouns Letter to whom it was immediatly made known, after Consideration they Determin'd to send one Messenger to the Massachusets and another to Connecticut to find what those Colonies would do in this matter Order'd Committees to make the Necessary preparations for as many men as this Colony are able to spare on the great=est emergency and then Adjourned untill next Monday hopeing by that Time to know what the other Colonies intended to do and Conform themselves thereto being too small to

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do any thing Considerable alone.

I have been in a very poor state of health for some time past but keep up yet, all else here are well Deputy Governor Nichols was alive Yesterday but dont Expect to hear again that he is so. I am with much respect

Your ever Loving Father

Mr. Rufus Hopkins

Endorsed Governor Hopkins / Sepr. 3d. 1756 ~/ in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 3d. 1756 /m/27

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Fort William Henry Sepr. 2d. 1756.

Sir,

Upon inquiry I find that several of the provincial Commissaries, have large Quantities of provision by them, & thinking that it would be for Your Interest, if they cou'd be purchased at a reasonable Rate, have obtain'd a Prise of one of them, of what he has by him which I have enclosed, If You approve of it & think proper to employ me, will be carefull that You have the strictest Justice done You, in every respect, whilst I tarry here, which I imagine will be three Months, after which will be cautious that Your Business shou'd not suffer.

It will be in my Power to purchase at least 200 Barrels of Pork, and other Provisions in Proportion. some of the Commissaries I am inform'd has large Quantities by them, therefore wou'd be glad to have Your Answer upon the Affair as soon as possible, for Fear they dispose of it otherways, which they can do by turning it into the Stores as what they purchased of the Men for Rum &c.

I yesterday received a Letter from Thos. Flucker Esqr. who presented his Compliments

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to You, & hopes that he shall have the Plea=
=sure of waiting on you in Boston. He wrote
me that he had received a Letter from the
Brigadier dated June 8th wherein he acquainted
him that he had received a Sum of Mony
for past Services

I am, Sir,

with the greatest Esteem

Your most obedient

& most humble Servant

Ralph. G. Waldo

lb 120..0..0 Bread at 15/ Sterling pr C	. . .	£90..0..0
40 Barrels Pork at 45/ Ditto pr Bbl	. .	90..0..0
100 Bushels Peas at 4/ Do pr Bush	. .	20..0..0
60 Bushl Meal at 2/6 Do pr Do	. . .	7..10..0
	Sterling	£207..10..0

To Christr Killy Esqr

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from Mr / Ralph G. Waldo Aid de Camp / to M. G. Winslow. To Christr / Killy Esqr / Fort William Henry Sept 2d / 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr 3d 1756. / m 28

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Francis Gere a Swiss, & Marie La Musette taken by Lieut. Kennedy about the 1st September, the first a Servant to Mr. de Coyne, the other keeps a publick House on the Road between Fort St. Jean & La Prairie, three Leagues from St. Jean & 5½ from Montreal.

She declares that she was at Montreal when the Garrison of Oswego was brought there, which was computed about 1800, whereof 70 of them were Women, & that the French Officers said they had but 3 Men Killed & 7 wounded at the Seige, but by Mistake the Canadians & Indians Kill'd three of their Officers, taking them for the English; that since she left Montreal, the Troops that had been at Os=wego passed by her House in their Way to Crown Point & Tienderoge. Viz. the Re=giments Biarre & Guienne, & the Day after she was taken, Mr. Montcalm was to pass by with the Regiment La Sarre; these three Regiments were the only Regulars at Oswego with about 550 Canadians, but with Regard to the Indians, they never heard the Num=ber; that after Fort Ontario was taken, Oswego held out but a few Hours, both the Prisoners add this Circumstance that Mr.

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Montcalm sent a Message, that if they did not surrender in three Hours, he wou'd fire red hot shot & burn the Place: That there was none of the Garrison put to the Sword, or any of the French allow'd to plunder: That they heard some of the Prisoners were to be left at Montreal, & the Priest to be sent to Quebec; That as she kept the Publick House, She heard the Conversation of all the Officers that stop'd there, who agreed that Mr. Montcalm in=tended to attack the Forts, particularly Fort Edward, that besides the three Regiments above mention'd, there are the Regiments Languedoc, La Reinne, & Rousillon at Crown Point, & Tienderoge, & all the Inhabitants able to carry Arms have likewise been sent up there, so that the English Prisoners reap their harvest; That the Provisions at Crown Point & Tienderoge is scarce & chiefly salt Pork; that the Troops there are very sickly, & a great many die. Francois Geru being singly examined, positively declares, that to the best of his Knowledge, & what he has heard, the above Declaration is true, but that his Master, Mr. de Coyne told him that Mr. Montcalm was resolved to make an Attack this Campaign upon Fort

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William Henry, & that if a great Supply of Pro=
=visions did not arrive this Year from France,
they wou'd be in great Want, as the Harvest
this Year was very bad, on Account of the Dry=
=ness of the Season.

Endorsed Declaration of Lieut./Kennedy's two French/Prisoners./in the E. of Loudoun's Letter/of Oct.r 3d 1756./m.30

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Fort Johnson September 26th. This Moment arrived here Tiiyaguande Head Warrior of the Onondaga Nation who left Montreal the 26th. of last month and his own Castle three days ago, and gives the following Acount.

He says that Severall of the Seneca Sa=chings were arrived at Onondaga and waited for the Cayugas, who were hourly expected, then they were all to sett of together for my House agree=able to the Invitation, or call, I gave them when I was at the German Flatts, Captain Butler with the Mohawk deliver'd his Message there, and proceeded to the Seneca & Cayuga Nation to bring down their Young Men.

That He and the Delegates who were sent to Canada by the whole Confedracey mett the First Division of the French Army going to Oswego at their Encampment by the Lake side at a place call'd by the In=dians Cáraádunita, which I suppose to be op=posite Isle Galot, they afterwards met the French Genl. who brought up the last Division, He says he's a Young man. The Delagates told him they were going to speak with their friends living in Canada, and try to get them from thence to which he answer'd that He had nothing

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to do with it, but advis'd them to go to Montreal & Speak with the Govr there about it, The General told them they were wrong in not going to Canada sooner, as the Govr had Calld them so often & as Early as last Spring. but their not at=tending his call, was Partly the reason of his going to Attack Oswego, As it was Suppos'd by him, the Six Nations were Indifferent about Oswego, hearing so often of his Intentions to take it, and would not come down to pre=vent it. That he was Determin'd to have a fair Tryall for it in a few days, and should he meet with a Repulse It would not discour=age him, he would try a second, & a Third time before the fall of the Leaf;

This Indian says, he and the rest of his Company were at Montreal when the French return'd from Oswego with the Prisoners, and had an Opportunity of seeing them all as they landed particularly the Officers among whom he knew Col^o. Peter Schyler ~ He spoke with one John Newkirk who was Interpreter for Col=onel Mercer at Oswego and was taken pri=soner with the Rest, said Newkirk is given to a Scawendadey Indian, who is very kind to him as he writes to his Father, I have seen

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the letter it is dated the 25th of August but does not Contain one Word of News This Newkirk desired the Indian who brought the letter, to tell me that the Garrison behaved Monstrous=ly ill, that the Officers were dejected, and the men all Drunk haveing knock'd the heads out of Several Casks of Rum, and drank of it till they were all as Drunk as Beasts, Colonel Mercer, One of the Gunners, & Eight Men More were all that was Kill'd on our side, & but three of the French, one of whom was Kill'd by a French Indian Accidentally The Delagates from Onondaga prevail'd on ten of their Nation to leave Canada & are come to Onondaga, they could not persuade the rest to Leave the French. ~ Provisions very plenty in Canada the Provisions taken at Os=wego, also the Cannon are left at Cadaraghui, & Niagara, He says he Could not think the French had any design this way, for their Force is all gone towards Lake George, They were Continually marching that way from Montreal, (both French & Indians) before he left it, Very few men left at Montreal, or Niagara as he heard, none at Swegatchy except a few Indians who did not incline to Join the

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French, there is no Fortification there at all, at Cadaraghqui they are enlargeing the Fort mak:=ing it very strong, & have above three hundred of the English Prisoners at Work, making a Trench round it mostly through a Rock, this Indian says that there is not a Man to be seen at any of their late Encampments along the lake they had Thrown up a kind of a Picketed Fort at Can:=undunta alias Isle Galott or opposite to it, But have left it. and are all gone to Can:=ada since the Demolition of Oswego. He fur:=ther says that he found some Cajuga In:=dians at Oswego who told him and the rest of his party, that they Came there to see whether the French had return'd, and while there, saw Six Vessells returning from Ni:=agara, two of which came to Oswego, to see whether the English were come there, finding none they fired severall Cannon on Board & so saild for Cadaraghqui.

He Further says that all the Caghnawageys, and every other Nation in Canada also a great Number of Ottawae's &c. are gone towards Lake George and he Imagines They will be ready to make an Attempt som where there about, by this time or very soon.

Wm. Johnson.

Endorsed Indian Intelligence / from Sir Wm. Johnson / 7ber 26th. 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 3d. 1756 / m/31

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A Report of the present State of Fort William Henry pursuent to His Excell^y: the Earl of Loudons Instructions to us for Examining into the State of that Fort with regard to the Artillary and Military stores and the Magazines for Ammunition and Provisi=:ons, and to give the Necessary Orders to pre=:pare Barracks for the Reception and Accommo=:dation of such a Garrison, as we shall judge Necessary for the Defence of that Fort. Together with store Houses for provisions for nine months for the Garrison, Dated at the Head Quarters at Albany Aug^t: 5th: 1756

1st: The Fort it self is not finish'd, one side being so low that the Interior is seen into (in Revers) from the riseing Ground on the south East side, also the East Bas=:tion has the same defect from the Grounds to the West, both of them con=:siderably higher then the Fort, the Ditches being dug in loose sand Crumb=:les away so that they are at present almost without form. the Gateway and com=:munication into the Fort is seen into from the south East, The Platforms for Cannon are Deficient, the Sailant Angles are too low

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no drawbridge, a bad Gate, and too many Embrasures in the Northwest Curtine, which renders it weak, The out work intended to scour the Swamp not finish'd. Its Com=munication, and also the Ditch and Pali=sades, are wanting, without Banquetts or Platforms, or the Gorge secur'd

2dly. The Casemate under the East Cur=tine exceeding Damp, the Timber be=ginning to rott and all mouldy, this Casimate can Contain three Hundred Barrells, the rest of the Casimates are some what better, and will Contain in the whole Eleven Hundred Barrells of Provisions, the Powder Magazine is in a very bad Condition, by the wet and Damp=ness of it, which has been the loss of one Hundred half Barrells of Powder belonging to the Provincials that was stow'd there, it is Capable of Containing Eight Hundred Barrells

3dly. The Barracks at present will Contain two hundred and Twenty Eight men but neither Bedsteads nor Bedding and no Lodg=ings for Officers except a few Sheds built against the North west Curtine not habitable,

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No Magazine for Provisions within the Fort except the Casimates above mention'd.

No Hospital Part of one of the Bar=
=racks being made use of for that Purpose, there is a Well the water not fitt for Drink=
=ing, no Guard House the men lying under a Miserable shed neat the Gate, No Smiths shop or Forge within the Fort or any place to work in

4^{ly}. The Artillary and stores that were there last winter, and in the Spring, ac=
=cording to an anex'd List, all in bad Con=
=dition, the Gun Carriages being Rotten and De=
=cayed; Except the Four Brass Six Pounders, for which they are at present at work on, for the making of New travelling Car=
=riages, all the ladles and Spunges are out of Repair and unserviceable, there is a Very small Proportion of Ammunition both for the Guns and Mortars in the Fort, and the Rest of the stores so confus'd and intermix'd that no Exact Account could be taken of them, but were oblig'd to take a Return of them from the Provincial Commissary,

5th. The state of the Artillary and stores brought by the Provincials to the Camp at

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Fort William Henry this season will be seen by the Second List hereunto annex'd sign'd by their Commissary, and was Examin'd into by Captain Mac Leod, But in Regard to the Return of shott and shells they are Found short some being left on the Road and not Collected together

The above being a true and exact account of the State and Condition we found Fort William Henry in, Gave the Following orders and Directions for it's Repairs, additional defence and Necessary Buildings to be proceeded upon Immediatly, ac=cording to his Lordships Instructions to us of the fore mention'd date

1st That the South East Curtine be rais'd so high with Logs that the Interior part of the Fort, or its opposite Curtine may be cov=er'd, that the Traverse upon the East Bastion be thicken'd, and raisd with a passage under=neath to go into the Bastion, that the Platforms be new laid and Compleated, The Ditches be new Traced, with the scarp and Counter Scarp faced with Fascines, to pre=vent the sand Crumbling away, That a Tenaille be made in Front of the south East Curtine to Cover the Communication into

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the Fort, that a new Gate and Draw bridge be made, besides a Bridge over the Ditch of the Tonaille, The Sailiant Angles next the riseing Grounds to be raised two Foot higher in order to Cover better the Flanks of its Bastions, and every other Embrasure in the West Curtine to be stop't up, the out work next the swamp to be finishd with its Communication, enlarg'd, to move small peices of Cannon on Occasion, It's Gorge closed up with a Barrier a Ditch on it's west face, and the whole Pallisaded with Plat forms & Banquetts,

2dly. As to the Caismates for Powder and Provisions that are bad the Tops are to be taken of, to be new Boarded and Caulk'd with a Pitch Cloth over it's Boarding, small Gutters to Carry of the Water from pene=trateing into the Caismates, and air Holes to keep it dry,

3dly. It is thought Necessary that Eight Eigh=teen Pounders, two thirty two pounders, two twelve pounders four six Pounders and Four Four pounders with one Thirteen Inch Mortar, Two ten Inch Mortars & one Eight Inch Morter be kept Continually

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mounted on the Batterys of the Fort, and to Supply the Out works on Occasion with a proper proportion of Ammunition and stores requesite for the above Number of Guns, and Mortars, and also for the Infantry

4th. A Pile of Barracks to be Built par=ralel to the West Curtine to Contain Two Hundred and Twenty Four Men also another Pile oposite to that for one Feild Officer Four Captains Twelve Subalterns, one En=gineer, one Artilery Officer, as it is thought Necessary that this Garrison should Con=sist of Four Hundred and Thirty two men, Exclusive of a Ranging Company, an Hospital for Sixty Men with an Appartment for Sur=geon and Mate, a Magazine for Nine Months Provisions for Five Hundred Men, to be Built Paralel to the North Curtine next the lake on the out side of the Fort as there is not Room within, this Magazine will be secured and Defended by the Two Flanks and Palis=ades, it being out of the line of Fire, It is also Necessary that there should be a Smal Labratory and a Smiths Forge, with a Carpenters shop, a Cantine for a Suttler, an Oven for Bread, but as there is not Room

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within the Fort for all those that are of the least Consequence, must be Built in the most secure part without,

5ly. That on the riseing Ground to the South East side of the Fort at about Seven Hundred Yards distance Command=ing the Road from Fort Edward the East strand of the Lake, and a Great part of the Swamp a Redoubt or Block house should be erected, with a Ditch before it, Mounting Two Peices of small Cannon and Proper accomadations for Fifty men would Greatly Contribute to strenthen Fort Wm. Henry by takeing pos=session of that advantagious Peice of Ground, preventing the Enemy from Ap=proaching it that way, and giveing timely Notice to the Fort,

6ly. That the riseing Ground to the south west at about Four Hundred Yards distance Commands the Fort, part of the back swamp, and the west corner of the Lake, it is a very advantagious Peice of Ground, if taken Possesion of by an Enemy, for which reason Another Redoubt is propos'd on it, and will be of Great security for the

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defence of the Fort on that side, as these two sides are most proper for an Enemy to Attack upon, and will serve as two Great supports to the Place bearing at about right Angles from one another, Tis Necessary that this Redoubt should be defended and ac=commodated as the other, both in Respect to Artilary, Construction and the Force to Maintain it whenever the above Redoubts are Built the strength of the Garrison must be Augmented from four Hundred and Thirty Two, to Five Hundred and Thirty two Men, with Officers in proportion.

R. Burton Lieut. Coll. 48th Regt.
Jas. Montresor Cheif Engineer
Wm. Mac Leod Capt. Lt. of Artillery

Fort William
Henry, Augt. 25th 1756,

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Endorsed A Report of the / present State of / Fort William Henry / Augt. 25th 1756 - / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 3d 1756 / m 32

Copy. Camp at Fort Edward August 27th: 1756

My Lord./

I am got back to this Place, upon my Return from Fort William Henry, I take the Liberty of sending your Lordship, a few remarks that I have made, which I shall be able to Explain to your Lordship, at my Return with the Report of the State of the two Forts

At Fort William Henry. About 25,000 Men, 500 of them sick, the greatest part of them what they call poorly, they bury from five to Eight daily, and Officers in proportion. extremely indolent, and dirty, to a degree, The Fort stinks enough to Cause an infection, they have all their sick in it. Their Camp Nastier than any thing I could Conceive, their Necessary houses, Kitchens, Graves and places for Slaughtering Cattle, all mix through their Encampment, a great waste of Provisions, the Men having just what they Please, no great Command Kept up, Colonel Gridley governs the General, not in the least alert, only one advanced Guard of a Subaltern and 24 Men, no Advanced Picket, no Scouting party out from thence, when I came there, nor did they send one during my Stay, which was Six days.

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The Cannon and Stores in great Confusion An Intrenchment ordered, and Traced out, by Mr. Montresor, but I am afraid will not be got done; as the People are extremely indolent, and want to be brushed up by their Commanders. A great deal to be done to the Fort, more I am afraid than will be finished in time. As your Lordship will see by the Report. Not near so much ground cleared of Wood about the Fort, as ought to be; and might have been, with the People they have had there.

They have two small Sloops of about twenty Tons each, have four Swivels mounted on each, One Sloop of 30 Tons launched the 23d. Instant, another of the same size to be launched in a few days, they propose having in each of those Vessells, four small Cannon or Royals. – Two large Scows, and one a Building a good many Whaleboats, and more building. A Great many Batteaus Scattered about, no Guard on board the Vessells, and they lay at Anchor a good way off from the Fort, and I think it would not be difficult or any great Risque to the Enemy Cutting them away or burning them. No care taken of the whale boats, any one making use of them that pleases. I went

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down the Lake as far as the first Islands, about Five miles and a half from the Fort, the Lake so far about a Mile over, very high Hills on both sides, but highest to the East=:ward. I went over Sir William Johnsons Encampment, round the Abattis and place of Action, very Stony and broken, but Strong ground, they must have fought, or run into the Lake. The Road from Fort William Henry to Fort Edward Sixteen miles, very Stony and broken in many places, extremely dangerous for Convoys to pass without great precaution, which the Provincials don't Attend to, having not been intercepted hitherto, and many passes so very advantageous for an Enemy (especially the kind of one we have to deal with) that without great precaution, and a proper disposi=:tion, the Enemy, might with three hundred men, cut to Peices a Convoy of Six hundred, and go off unchastis'd. The Provincials are no Judges of ground, and march with very little precaution. when they arrive at the half way, with their Convoys, where they always halt, there being a fine Run of very good water, (which emptys itself into Wood Creek) they all ground their Arms and go for water, and then Sleep scatter'd about under

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the Trees, where I am astonished they have never been attacked.

A picketted Fort would be very necessary here, to be destroyed at the End of the Campaign. There is a good Spot of ground for such a Fort. When Mr. Winslow received your Lordships Letter with the Account of Oswego, being taken, and your Lordships orders to him not to proceed for the present I am certain they had no thoughts of moving Farther this year, let them pretend what they please hereafter Mr. Winslow had said as much to me, before he received your Lordships Letter, and Orders. Nor are they in a Capacity for any such undertaking. Their Troops very sickly and weak, not to say a word of their Generals, Colonels, and great Warr, Captns. they dont know of any feazible Road, for their Cannon, or Water Sufficient for their Sloops, and Scows to Transport their Artillery &c., near to the French Advanced Guards, which are, by the Intelligence of their Scouts, four Miles from Ticonderoga, on each side of the Lake, Consisting as they say of Four or Five hundred Men each, Strongly Intrench'd, and a few peices of Cannon.

At Fort Edward about 25,00 (sic) men, between Five and Six hundred Sick bury daily from five

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to Eight Men, and Officers in Proportion, the Camp much Cleaner, than at Fort William Henry but not sufficiently so, to keep the men healthty, A much better Command kept up here, than at Fort William Henry, General Lyman very ready to Order out to work, and to Assist the Engineers with any number of Men they Require, and keeps a Suc=cession of Scouting parties out, towards Wood Creek and South Bay. Are hard at work Intrenching, and Picketting their Encampment, which will be finished in a few days. The Fort in a very weak Condition, as your Lordship will see by the Report; an Infinite deal to be done to the Works; Barracks to be built, both for the Men and Officers, in short a great deal more to be done to the Fort, exclusive of what is necessary to be Con=structed and Built upon the Island, than can be got done before winter, from Fort Edward to Fort Miller, nine miles, the Road bad, be=ing very much Cut and broken, not water enough at present in the River, for a Batteau to go up Laden to Fort Edward. Fort Miller is a Miserable Affair, a few Pickets Stuck into the ground, at the mercy of Eighty or a hundred of the Enemy. From thence to Saratoga five miles, the Road broken and bad.

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There are my Lord amongst the provincial Forces, but Cheifly in the New York Regiment between two and three hundred Indians, who are of very little use where they are, were they properly Officer'd, some white people mix'd with them, Cloathed and made use of as In=dians, might be made very usefull.

The best Command kept up in the New York Regiment, have some sort of Discipline, If they are to be disbanded at the end of the Cam=paign, a good many of them, I think with a Little management may be got to enlist into the Kings Troops.

I hope in a few Days, to bring your Lordship, a Report of the State of the Forts, and what is Ordered to be done to them, when I shall be able to talk to your Lordship more fully upon many things I have here hinted at. I am &ca

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from Lieut. /Col Burton to the Earl / of Loudoun / August 27th 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 3d. 1756. / m 33

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

A Report of the present State of Fort Edward pursuant to his Excellency the Earl of Loudouns Instructions to us, for examining into the State of that Fort, with regard to the Artillary, and Military Stores, with the Magazines for Ammunition and provisions, and to give the Necessary orders to prepare Barracks for the Reception of such a Garrison, as we shall Judge Necessary for the defence of that Fort, Together with store houses for provisions, fore nine Months for the Garrison, Dated at the head Quarters at Albany Augt. the 5th. 1756

1st. This Fort is Situated on the Fork of Hudson's River, and a small Rivulet which embraces part of the said Fort. It has an Island in Front of it, which prevents the Command of the West Branch of the Hudsons river, with an Eminence to the East at Six Hundred Yards distance Commanding the Place, That Part of the Fort where no repair has yet been made, is in a Miserable weak Condition, having neither Parapit to Cover from an Enemy, or Ramparts to mount Cannon for its Defence

2dy. The Ravelin in Front of the Gate is nearly finish'd and will be in Capacity

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to mount Guns on next week, with it's Ditch sunk to it's proper Width and Breadth, the Powder Magazine under the North East Bastion finish'd and Powder in it, also two Casemates under the North Bas=:teon, which will be coverd in next week, with its Parapet, Rampart & Basteon, with a Great Quantity of Timber Cut and Squar'd both in the Woods, and in the Fort ready to be laid.

3dy. The Barrack at present made use of for an Hospital will Contain two Hun=:dred and twenty four men, but neither Bedsteads or Beding and no lodging for Officers, except some few old houses and Sheds built next the West and south Curtine, made use of for a Guard house and not habitable in Winter, neither Magazine for provisions or Hospital except the above mention'd Barracks, nor Artificers shops, nor room for them within the Fort, There is a well but the Water not fit for Drinking, for want of being Clean'd. The Retrenchment which is Pi=:quetted with a Ditch before it, will be finished in a few days, so as to

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secure the Provincials in their Camp.

4th: The Artilary on the works at Pre=
=sent, Consists of Five six Pounders, and
one Four Pounder, mounted on Iron Truck
Carridges, in very bad order and Weak,
not in a Capacity of standing any fireing
nor are they Repairable, They have neither
Ladles nor Spunges, and have only Thirty
rounds of shot for each, the Four Pounder
has no proper shot for it. The two Eighteen
Pounders that came last from Albany,
were mounted on the North Bastion Yes=
=terday, and there Ammunition Consists
of one hundred and Ten Rounds each,
Ten of which are Grape. Their Attiraills or
Appurtinances in good order, but are mounted
on such Carriages that they cannot be made
use of. The Powder at Present in the Maga=
=zine is Seventy one Barrells

The above being a True and Exact account
of the State and Condition we found Fort Edward
in The Following orders and Directions for its Re=
=pairs, Additional defence and Necessary Buildings Accord=
=ing to his Lordships Instructions to us of the fore mentiond
date, will be Requisite to be given as soon as the
Necessary works now Carrying on for Secureing

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the place will be finish'd.

1st: That the Fort be intirely rais'd so high as to Cover from an Enemy, with a Ram=
=part Sufficient to mount Cannon, under which there is to be four Casimates and two Powder Magazines in the Bastions, the Ditch to be lower'd to Ten Feet, and the Widith to Forty Feet That the south West Angle be advanc'd next the River, so as to gain two Flanks, That the Ravilin be fin=
=ish'd to cover the Gate and Draw Bridge of the Fort, That its Ditch be Twenty Four Feet wide with a part of a Cover'd Way from it, and place of Arms to cover the Communication of the road to the River.

2dly It's thought Necessary that Twenty Cannon Includeing those on the Works al=
=ready, with Six Mortars not under Eight Inches, will be Sufficient, to defend the Fort and Ravelin, with a proper Propor=
=tion of Ammunition and Stores requisite for the above Number of Guns and Mor=
=tars, and also for the Infantry Design'd to Garrison it

3dly The Barracks at present within the Fort, the Chimneys require to be all repair'd,

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and part of a Floor to be new made to it with Bedsteads and Bedding.

4th: Another Pile for Soldiers to be Built to Contain two hundred and Twenty six men being the Compliment to compleat to four Hundred and Fifty which is thought to be a proper Garrison for the Defence of this Fort, a Barrack for one Feild Officer, Four Captains, Twelve Subalterns one Of=ficer of Artilary, and Engineer with a Mag=azine for Provisions for one Month for Six Hundred Men also an Oven for Bakeing Bread

5th: The Island opposite the Fort being a Large spot of Ground of about one Mile in Lenth and one Hundred Yards over and more, in some Places preventing the west Channel of the River from being seen from the Fort It is thought Ne=cessary that a Horn Work should be Constructed across the said Island, with two whole Bastions in its Front, that the Wings may still be better Flank'd Notwithstanding the Defence it receives from the West side of the Fort. This work must have a Ditch and Rampart, Sufficient,

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to mount Four Cannon or more with a Good Parapet, a Magazine with a Room for a Commissary to Contain Provisions, for Nine Months for Seven Hundred Men, In=:cludeing the two Ranging Companys, which are thought Extreamly Necessary and of Great service here for Scouting from hence to South Bay and Wood Creek, who are to be hutted on the said Island, a Barrack for one Hundred men, with Appartment for one Captain, and three Subalterns, an Hospital for Eighty men with Proper lodging for Surgeon and Mate, Apothecarys shop and Surgery Carpenters and Smiths Shop, with a Forge and a Guard House, all these Buildings being Absolutly Necessary, and no Room in the Fort for them, this Place was thought the Most secure Place to Erect them -

6th: As to the Communication between the Fort and Island, it is Necessary that a Pontoon should be made with Two Cables fixt on each side for passing Backwards, with it's sides Musquet Proof. and between the Island and the West side, which is at Present the road to

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Saratoga; to have another Pontoon built in the same Manner and to be cover'd on the West side by a Tête de Pont wherein should be kept a Guard of a Serjeant and Twelve men, with a Small Bason to be made on each side of the Island, Pallisaded with a Barrier for the Protection of these Pontoons

R Burton Lieut: Colo 48th: Regimt.
Jas. Montresor Chief Engineer
Wm: Macleod Capt: Lieut: of Artillery

Fort Edward
Augt. the 29th: 1756

Endorsed A Report of the / present state of / Fort Edward &c / Augt. 29th: 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr: 3d: 1756. / m/34

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Copy. To His Excellency John Earl of Loudoun Lord Machline & Tarrinzian &c &c &c General and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America.

The Memorial of Capt. William Williams of His Majesty's 51st. Regiment

Humbly Sheweth.

That His Excellency General Shirley on the 12th. August 1755. gave him Orders, to take Charge of Batteaus, Slay Men and Provisions, that came to the Oneida Carrying Place as will appear by his Orders of that date, which were backed by Divers Orders from Him and his Secretary Re=lative thereto, and in Perticular that he should pay them &c. He did and in November following paid him the Ballance of his Account, being near £800 - York Currency -

That when General Shirley came down from Oswego he gave him Orders for building Fort Williams, and several other services, as will appear by his Orders of October the 29th., in pur=suance of which your Memorialist employed his Men as Batteau Men, Labourers and Slay Men, for which he has paid them out of his own money, as far as he Could and Considerable

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remains due to them - and further.

That when your Memorialist, heard of General Shirley's arrival at Albany this Summer, He sent down the Account that is herewith ex=hibited, to his Secretary Mr. Alexander; who sent it back to him for his Affidavit or Vouchers; and no man being in Civil Power at the Carry=ing Place, Major Craven of said Regiment, and Commandant there, ordered Captain Jocelyn the President of a Court Martial, to sware him to said Account, which he did before the said Court. Upon which your Memorialist, immediately by Express, sent it to James Stevenson of this Town to forward to Mr. Alexander if he should be gone, as was the Case, and he did directly send it to him.

But may it please your Lordship, either through forgetfullness or the Multiplicity of Business, it has layen unnoticed, untill Governor Shirley has been superceeded in Command.

Which is the Occasion of this Memorial, beg=ging your Lordship to consider my Case, and afford me what Releif therein, shall appear Proper to your Lordship. —

Endorsed Memorial of Capt. William/Williams — of the/ 51st. Regiment/ Copy/in the E. of Loudoun's Letter/ of Oct. 3.-1756/ 41

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William Alexander Esqr. To Wm. Williams Dr.

1755
Novr. 23. To Riding Account

I have paid all this Acct. and sent, Walkers, Lucass & Hatches, Receipts to Mr. Alexr. as Voucher's to Acct., have wrote to him three times for them & my Account since I have been in Albany but have recd no Ansr. from him	To Cash paid Daniel Murphy	£3.. 16.. 6
	Ditto paid an Indian	.. 18.. –
	Ditto paid Ditto	.. 18.. –
	Ditto paid for Slays for the Indians by Col. Bradst. order	5.. 16.. –
	Ditto paid a Squaw for Hay	8.. –
	Ditto paid her for Riding	1.. 5.. –
	Ditto paid 3 Slaymen, wth Loads from the German Flats the first that ever came at 15/	9.. –.. –
	Ditto paid John Baker for Riding	59.. 19.. –
	Ditto paid Danl. Lucas	28.. 13.. –
	Do. paid Stephen Hatch	38.. 18.. –
	Do. paid Saml. Square	4.. 7.. –
	Do. pd. Nicl. Wood	2.. 5.. –
	Do. pd. Saml. Masters	6.. 12.. –
	Do. pd. John Bryant	4.. 13.. –
	Do. to Fredrick Piper	2.. 14.. –
paid all this but £9.. – Bradstreets Act. A	Due to Soldiers of my Compy. for Riding while Col. Bradstreet was up the First time according to his Acct. given me	30.. 8.. –

Carried over £200.. 10.. 6

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Brought Over

Cash paid the Indians for Expres.s Patrolling & Guarding

Paid Fleas for Piloting the Carpenters to Onondaga	£ 2 .. 8 .. –
Do. to Abraham the Indian on ye River for damage done his house & Corn by Col. Bradstreet, des.r	.. 16 .. –
Gave Mr. Blair the head Carpenter 3 Dollars for to pay ye Indians for his men Lodging and the use of their Kettles &c	1 .. 4 .. –
Paid an Indian for goeing Express to Sir Wm. Johnsons	1 .. 4 .. –
Paid Fleas for do.	1 .. 4 .. –
Paid another for do.	1 .. 4 .. –
Paid Stockam for goeing Spy to Wood Creek	8 .. –
paid the Queen for Damage done her House	.. 16 .. –
Pd. Stockham for goeing Express to the Germ. Flats	.. 16 .. –
Pd. 4 Expresses to Oswego	16 .. – .. –
Pd. the Indians that came with Jno. Davis fm. Osgo.	3 .. 4 .. –
	29 .. 4 ..

Carried over

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Brought Over

paid the Indians for Guarding 2 Gang of Battoes to the lake	4 .. 8 .. –
paid d°. for Covering Magazine & Maj^r. Cravens House	2 .. 4 .. –
paid d°. that went with Col^l. Schuyler and Maj^r. Kinnier to the Lake	6 .. 16 .. –
paid d°. for Covering the Guard House	2 .. 8 .. –
To 6 peices of Gimp for distinguishing Marks for d°.	3 .. – .. –
	18 .. 16 .. –

The above account I have paid every penny of Excepting the Article of £ 6 .. 16 which Colonel Schuyler paid and wrote me desireing that I would give him Credite so much as he had no Account of any sort open with the Government ______

To Working Account.

To 358 days work in felling Timber

Carried over

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Brought Over

But little of this Act. paid and as it was kept by Lieut. Tilton he swore to it and its now in Mr. Alexrs. hands	Stockades and Lineings for the Barracks & Fort at 12d.	£ 17.. 18.. –
	To 307 days work in Repairg. the road & building a Bridge the Morrass at 12d. - - -	15.. 7.. –
	To 10,000 Shingles bought of the Soldiers . - - -	12.. –..
This Article was & is humbly Submd.	To 80 days Lieut. Tilton Oversaw the workers - - at 3/ Strg. .	23.. –.. –
		68.. 5.. –

Batteau Mens Acct.

About half paid as appt. by ye. list No. B	To 28 Men of my Compy. that went to Oswego in Novr. & Decr. last in Batx. - - - 40/	56 . – ..
Not yet paid	To 15 Bateaus load for the Genl. Flats the latr. end of Winter at 24/ ꝑ Man 2 to Boat - - - - -	36.. – ..
paid	To 1 Baton. I sent for Seneca wth. wintr. Stores - - -	6.. – ..
	To 3 Men yt. brot. Capt. Mc. Kutters Bagg. for Senda. in Apr last by Col. Breadstreets order - - -	9.. – ..
Not paid	To 6 Soldiers wth. 12 Horses Loadd. wth. peoirs. for the Ship Carpenters that went wth. them to Onondaga at 12/ ꝑ day for a man & 2 Horses as pr. Agret. wth. Col. Brad	18.. – ..
		125.. – ..

Carried over

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Brought Over

To Horses I Bought of the Germans
as I could get no Riders

All paid but £12 to Andrew Weaver for which he has my Note And were all Killd or taken by the Enemy March 27th.	To 1 pair of Jacob Stareing	£23 " — " —
	1 do. of Andrew Weaver	20 " — " —
	1 do. of Philip Fox	30 " — " —
	1 do. of Conrod Franks	24 " — " —
	1 do. of Daniel Murphy	18 " — " —
		115 " — " —

Carried Over £556 " 15 " 6

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Dr. ——————— William Alexander Esqr.

To the Sum Tottal Brought over £556. 15 .. 6

NB To Justifie my Conduct in Employing my men as Riders I must referr to Genl. Shirleys orders of Octr. 29th. and would at this time mention it that not one Single load was got over the Carry=ing place from the 22d. Novr. 1755 to some time in April but what were rid by men & Horses that I bought nor Could I by any means get Riders and if I had not so done it's very Ap=parent what would have been the State of Oswego,

To Justify my Conduct in Employing them as Labourers I would refer to Genll. Shirleys order aforesaid and Mr. Alexrs. letter of Octr. 17th. No. C and would remark that I have Perform'd the Service for Just one Third therein Promised

That it might appear I followed my orders in Employing them as Bateau men I must referr to Mr. Alexanders letter Sepr. 7th. No. D. and Genll. Shirleys Sepr. 11th. E No. E

That I did no more then was desired and Expected of me in paying Riders & Batoe men there, must referr to Mr. Alexr. Letters No. F. G, H

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To William Williams ______________________ Cr.

By 24 Dollars I Charg'd in my former Acco.t left with Lieu.t Tilton to pay Batteau men . . . . . . £6..12.. –

By money taken of the Indians for Rum sold them by Gen.ll Shirley's Ord.r 10..4..–

£16..16..–

By Ballance due to M.r Williams . . . 539..19..6

£556..15..6

Errors Excepted

P.r W.m Williams

Albany ss. August 24th. 1756 Then Captain William Williams of His Majestys 51st Regiment Personally ap:pearing made Oath that the Services mention'd, and the Articles contain'd in this Acco.t have been Pro:cured & Perform'd at the rates herein & that he has Paid or Stands answerable to the whole (except to Lieut. Tilton) for which no Consideration has been made him Excepting the two Articles of Credit as above

Jacob Ten Eyck Justice

And would further observe that the 5 Pair of Horses mention'd in this Acco.t were Bought to Carry Provisions for the Ship Carpenters that went to Oswego in the Winter by Land and that would Perish'd for want after they got there if not

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on there March, had I not Bought them & all that they Earnd is Containd in Squires, Woods, Bryants, Pipers, & Masters, their Acots on the other Side this Account before they were Kill'd —

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Notes sent to Harkerman

John Clapsaddle	£10 .. 1 .. –
William Cunninghem	8 .. 12 .. –
Jacob Edie	9 .. 6 .. 6
George Frank	9 .. 3 .. –
Fredrick Helmer	8 .. 5 .. 6
Augusterus Hess	10 .. 7 .. 6
Fredrick Orendorph	11 .. 18 .. 6
Hauns Pirne	10 .. 10 .. –
Rodolph Shoemaker	12 .. 16 .. –
Thomas Shoemaker	10 .. 17 .. –
Nicholas Storing	11 .. 9 .. –
Michael Welch	10 .. 13 .. 6
Nicholas Wolhaven	10 .. 18 .. 6
John Arey	7 .. 3 .. 6
Peter Bellinger	11 .. 5 .. 6
Andries Foak	9 .. 3 .. –
Adam Helmer	8 .. 3 .. 6
Adam Hatmaker	7 .. 16 .. –
Henry Harter	8 .. 11 .. –
Henry Jacob	7 .. 13 .. –
Hendrick Myer	9 .. 7 .. –
Hanneacle Uxener	6 .. 4 .. –
John Morey	5 .. 8 .. –
Christophel Foakes	7 .. 6 .. 6
Jacob Weaver	9 .. 3 .. 6
	£232 .. 2 .. 6

Notes sent to Fry

Jory Eaker	£10 .. 11 .. 6
Leonard Helmer	8 .. 19 .. 6
William Soaks	9 .. 1 .. –
Hauns Martle	6 .. 15 .. –
George Snell	7 .. 10 .. 6
Adam Staruburys	11 .. 11 .. 6
Michael Frank	8 .. 7 .. –
Adam Kills	7 .. 9 .. –
Peter Soakes	5 .. 13 .. –
Rodolph Keller	8 .. 1 .. 6
Fredrick Berckert	5 .. 17 .. –
Hauns Cloak	4 .. 7 .. 6
Charles Carlock	6 .. 4 .. –
Adam Nellis	6 .. 11 .. –
John Shoeman	7 .. 5 .. –
Adam Eaker	7 .. 3 .. 6
Henry Dox Teller	.. 18 .. –
	£124 .. 5 .. 6

Deserted

Hendrick Fritcher	£2 .. 5 .. –
Ditto 1 Horse	4 .. 1 .. –
John Saulsbury	3 .. 12 .. –
Coonrod Timberman	5 .. 17 .. –
John Vanalstine	7 .. 4 .. –
William Wormott	5 .. 17 .. –

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Fredrick Shoemaker Disch.d	£4 .. 10 .. --	Philip Belinger	£5 .. 8 .. -
John Atkins	£4 .. 1 .. ~	Aron Becker	4 .. 19 .. -
John Baker	2 .. 18 .. 6	Nicholas Feiling	7 .. 4 .. -
Samuel Harris	2 .. 0 .. 6	Dirick Petraw	4 .. 10 .. -
Stephen Hatch	6 .. 6 .. ~	Marius Ransple	4 .. 19 .. -
Samuel Masters	5 .. 4 .. ~	John Read	5 .. 17 .. -
Nicholas Hilch	4 .. 19 .. ~	Mark Farnwood	5 .. 17 .. -
William Reynolds	~ .. 9 .. ~	Hanns Farnwood	5 .. 17 .. -
Matthew Shuck	4 .. 1 .. ~	Andries Weaver	4 .. 1 .. -
David Goff	~ .. 9 .. ~	Peter Carlock	2 .. 5 .. -
	£30 .. 8 .. ~	Henry Weaver	3 .. 3 .. -
		Jacob Feiling	7 .. 4 .. -
			£90 .. - .. -

Endorsed Col.l Bradstreets Acco.t / of Rideing 1.st Trip / 1756 / N.o A / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Oct.r 3.d 1756 / 43

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Copy

To the Right Hon.ble John Earl of Loudoun Lord Mach=
=line and Tarrinzean &c. &c. &c.; General and Com=
=mander in Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in North America.

My Lord

Having received Your Excellency's Commands, that I answer the following Questions,

What was the Cause of such want of provisions at Oswego; from the time of General Shirley's Arrival there to the time of its being supplyed in the Spring following. And the State of that Garrison during that time.

Shall give your Lordship, what offered to my Observation at the Oneida's Carrying place; and the Authentic Accounts I have received relative thereto.

And I humbly Conceive one Material Cause was the not procuring a Sufficiency, and getting them to Schenectady in Season, while the waters were high, and the Farmers business on Hudson's and the Mohawks Rivers would allow of their At=tendance, on the Batteau Service; This I ground chiefly upon what M.r Alexander said to me (sev=eral being present) when he was going with the General to Oswego. — I told him the Army would want provisions, for I had seen but little go along, and knew the General had not Enough, with him to last his Escort to Oswego. He Replied

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its impossible but that there should be enough, for that there had been 500 barrels of Pork sent to Schenectady to Mr. Visger, who being present acknowledged, the Receipt of them, & Accounted for them; and he made no Mention of any more being sent, but said, that there were such droves of Cattle on the Road, and to be followed with Others, that it was im=possible they Should want.

And after there was a new Supply of pro=visions procured on the Mohawk's River, and more sent to Schenectady from below; no Contract be=ing made. The Justices with the greatest difficulty cou'd and did pick up a Man here and there for Batteau Men, who were Accountable to no Man; and many when they got as far as the Carry=ing place, would put their Loads on Shore and Runn off; and others (Generally speaking the Best Batteau Men, were taken into private Mens Service that followed the Army, and others that went to Oswego upon Trading Accounts. They giving more for the Trip; than was Given by the Government.

There being no Contract or Set of Men to call upon, but the Justices, has been a means of delaying every party that arrived at Schenectady.

And another great cause of Delay, was the want of Horses, at the Oneida's Carrying place

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which was Occasioned as the Germans told me, by their not being paid; that they went again & again to Herkermer and Petri (the persons appointed by Mr. Alexander to pay them, who kept Stores or Shops) and they told them they might have goods, but that they had no money. ~ and this Spring when Captain Bradstreet went up, with 400 Whale boats and Batteaus, he could by no means get 60 Span of Horses; protesting they would not go 'till the old Score was paid, and when I came down in July many came to me and told me, they were not paid for last summers work.

Whether the Batteau Men were duly paid I can't Affirm; but I have frequently heard them say they were not, and protest they would not Come again till they were

Whether Sixty Seven Batteau Loads be enough or too much for a Commissary and Sutler for such a number of Officers and Men, I leave to better Judges; but that such a num=ber were employed upon the Governments Charge. As also a number that were loaded with Trunks and Bales, that went to Oswego with the General; and were as Mr. Alexander told me, presents for the Indians; is what I am Certain of ~

The Lawless and uncontroul'd use and Waste

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of provisions, by the Batteau Men, makes a great Stride towards the Consumption of Provisions.

The Want of Commissarys at the German Flatts and Carrying place; and the want of Scales and Weights, to weigh out provisions to those that pass or repass as well as the Soldiers posted there.

The great Consumption of Provisions by the In=dians for which Mr. Alexander told me he made no Calculation.

Not to say any thing of the wants of Sheds or Stores to Secure them from the Rain and Sun.

That Oswego was Short of provisions, while General Shirley was there; will appear by his Son Captain Shirleys Letter to me, wherein he says, that the Forces were Reduced to half Allowance, and at that Allowance could Subsist but a few days. And by Col. Mercer's in which he says Repeatedly that the Garrison has been kept at two thirds, from the time General Shirley left it, to this Spring.

That Oswego must have been abandoned before mid Winter; had not the Soldiers been employed as Batteau Men; every one that knows any thing of the Affair will Allow.

To Whom also they owed their Releif, when under terrible Apprehensions, in March last, by breaking thro the Ice, a thing never known before,

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at that Season, nor could have been done now had not the Winter and Frosts been unusually Moderate.

Whether the Short Allowance of what they had, and total Depravations of some Articles and misera=able Lodgings, were the Causes of so great mortality among them; are things of Serious Consideration and Reflection

And whether the Commissarys Selling his Rum to them for four dollars a Gallon, and mean brown Sugar half a dollar a pound and Other things in proportion; and the Soldiers kept out of their Pay for 6 or 8 months, has not been the Occasion of so many Desertions to the French and Elsewhere - May be tho.t a Subject of future Enquiry.

I am,

My Lord

Your Lordship's

Most Obedient &

Most Devot.d Servant

Wm. Williams

Albany September 10th 1756.

Endorsed Copy / Cap. William Williams's / Information, what Occas.d / the Want of Provisions at / Oswego. / 10th September 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Oct.r 3.d 1756 / m 54

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To His Excellency The Right Hon.ble John Earl of Loudoun, General and Commander in Chief of all His Majestys Forces, in North America ~

The Examination of James Reade late Assist. Commissary

Mr. James Reade says that he arrived at the Oneida Carrying the beginning of Feberuary last, as Assistant Commissary, & upon shewing them Mr. Leakes Instructions, took what Stores were there, which were but few, into his Possesion, that Captain Williams, that had the Command of the Fort desir'd he should send, what Provisions, he had to Bulls Fort.

In the Latter end of Feberuary Captain Williams, received severall Letters from Col.o Mercer, that they were in Great want of Provisions, at Oswego; and in March he also received many Letters, to the same Purpose, acquainting him that if he had not a Supply of Provisions, he must be Oblig'd to Abandon Oswego, before the 25th of March, the last mention'd Letters, were sent open, Directed to General Shirley, that they might be seen Both by Civil and Military Officers, for to urge a Supply of Provisions, for the said Garrison, as the said Williams had

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not Comply'd with the first Letters, at which Time the Indians had given an Account, of the Enemys, marching towards Fort. Bull, & Captain Williams & others, thought it not only dangerous, but im=possible on Account of the Ice, on Oneida Lake, to send a Supply of Provisions; the said Reade took fourteen Battoes, loaded with Provisions, to the Lake & there met with John Vansais, who liv'd with the Indians, coming with an open Letter, from Col. Mercer, Repeating the former Grievance, then the said Reade unloaded the Battoes on the Ice rolling the Barrells of Provisions over & drag=ging afterwards the Battoes, & arrived at Oswego, the 24th. of March, where he was received by Col=onel Mercer with Great Joy, saying if he had not have come, that in two, or three days longer he would, have been intirely out, of Provisions, & that he had intended to march away before that time, but depended that some body would Releive him, he then Call'd for Mr. Lewis, Assist. Commissary, and Desired him to show me, the Stores, if there were any, upon which Mr. Lewis Replied, that there was no Occasion, for there was none but about an allowance for three days, he then ask'd Colonel Mercer the reason of his not firing the morning Gun, in the Fort,

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he said the Wall was Crack'd, and that he had Fired it once, which shatter'd it worse, for which reason he was oblig'd to Fire it out of the Fort,

No improvements, on the old Fort but a Small Fachine Battery, made, which Colonel Mercer had done since General Shirley was there & that on a Hill on the same side of the Water, where an intended fort was to have been, there was only a few stakes put up,

Fort Ontario on the Opoite side, of the Water, was a Stockad'd Fort, Tolerabley well Finish'd.

The said Reade further saith that on his Return from Oswego he found Bulls Fort, Destroy'd, and as far as he can Charge, his memory, he belives there might be in it, 70 Barrells of meat, 40 Barrells of Flower, 50 Bags of Pease, 25 Baggs of Flower, 25 Tierces of Bread, & 15 Barrells of Rum, & on his arrival at the great carrying place, he told Captain Williams that the Pro=visions, that he had Carried to Oswego, would last but a short time, & that if he would give him men, he would again Venture up, he made answer to him, if he was Fool enough to loose his life, the men should not loose their's, Captain Williams orderd his men a Gill of Rum ℘ day, which was given to them, while

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there was any, also the Indians had Rum, & an order from General Shirley not exceeding three Gal=
=lons, but notwithstanding that order; they had oftner Six Gallons; and the said Reade also says that he never knew, that Captain Williams had such a Quantity of Rum, till one day, Mr. Prit=
=chard Commissary of the Musters, seeing Indians and Others coming out of a House, with Rum ask'd Reade, who sold Rum there, pointing to the House which House was Captain Williams's, upon which the said Reade went, directly to Captain Williams; to enquire about it, who told him that he had, had a Cargoe of 60 Barrells of Rum, Consign'd to him, and that the Chief Part of it, he had sent to Oswego, & the Remainder, which was in Leaky Casks, he sold to the Indians, Pr. Order of General Shirley; also the Slay men, applyed to the said Reade to know the Reason, that Pro=
=visions, was not sold, to them as formerly, he said that he did not know & that he had no, orders to do the Like, so he believes; that Capt. Williams, has the Cash arising from the Sale of the said Rum and Provisions.

James Reade

Albany Sep. 15th. 1756 ~

Endorsed Copy / of Mr. James Reade's / Examination / Septr. 17th. 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 3d. 1756 / m55

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1755
July the 19th. Arrived at Albany from Boston with Gen: Shirley

Ditto 29th. Set out from Schenectady for Oswego, and arrived there the 22d. August, and there found the two American Regiments; Colonel Schuyler's; and one Independent Company, besides some Indians, and some of the Albany and Schenectady Men, under the Command of Col: Lydius and Captain Fisher all encamp'd; the Fort of loose Stones, in a miserable, weak and defenceless State.

August 23. I was ordered to visit the ground, over the River, where there were some people clearing already, for building Fort Ontario, and in about ten days after marked out a Fort, in the figure of a Starr, with a Block house and four Cavaliers, designed by Mr. Alexander and Bradstreet; I made great Objections at the insufficiency and Construction of the plan, before Colonels Ellison and Mercer, with Major Kinneer, Col: Lydius and others, on the Spot, and General Shirley said he would Consider about it, but Mr. Alexander ordered, to have the plan executed According to the draught, and that I had nothing further to do, than to follow his Orders, which the

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General Confirmed; upon which I marked the French, where the Stockades was set, and never came there again by way of Direction. — The 12th September a Mutiny broke out amongst the Soldiers of General Shirley's Regiment, for want of Provisions, after having loudly Complained to their Officers about it, and their Officers to the General, but without any Redress, as numbers of Batteaus came up loaded with Shop Goods; and further that the Soldiers had not Received their half Allowance from the time they had been at Oswego, and they hearing that Mr. Alexander was the Contractor applied to him publicity, Demanding their due; upon which he Replied, that he could not make provisions, and that if they were not Satisfied they might eat Stones; after this they absolutely Refused; to work on the abovementioned Fort, or any other Work, for that they could not work without Pay, and not half the Provision allowed to them; and when the Officers Attempted to fforce them to Work, the Granadeers of General Shirley's ran to their Arms, which brought great Confusion in the Garrison; some of them were brought to a Tryal, but Acquitted as their plea was found Just by the Officers, on the Court Martial and Numbers of deserters being

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brought, and came in of their own Accord, but none suffered death, except two, which was for Robbery; as the Article of desertion was overlook'd by their not having pay, nor Provisions; a few of them had some Lashes given them, but it was for having declared that when they were Listed by Captain Shirley, that they had not Received their full Bounty Money, nor other things; especially their allowance of Provision, which the King pays for, which was promised them; But the same Evening of the Mutiny, there was an Order for the Men to be Paid for their work, but as to Provisions there was none to be given them; & as a further encouragement to Carrying on the Works, a Gill of Rum was Allowed each Man who was employed. — At this time Captain Bradstreet brought all the Masons of the whole Army together, to build 7 Ovens, which with a great Expence was performed; but as they made no Covers over them, nor ever any Fire in them, they fell in before Christmas Came, without being made the least use off.

On the 19th September Orders were given to Embark Cannon, and other Artillery Stores, with 1000 Men to take Niagara; which was all Embarked, except the Men, who were

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to be ready at a Minutes Warning. — The 26th: Ditto received Counter Orders, which was Conjectured to be owing, to the Want of Provisions, as at that time there was not three days Provision at Oswego, for the Army then present; and then Disembark'd the Artillery and Stores.

At the same time, Col. Lydius and Cap=tain Fisher of Schenectady applyed to General Shirley, for two or three Vessells, and three or 400 Men, with 3 Cannon to go against Ni=agara, and had bespoke me to go with them, and that they would give a Bond of 1000 pounds, for the Vessells, and Security for the taking the Place; having sent an Indian before, who brought word that he would take the Place with a few Men; and that the whole fort was Rotten and out of Repair. — but General Shirley would not Consent to it.

October the 10th: I was ordered to Lay out a Fort, on the West side of Oswego, on the hill, which Continued such time, till Colonel Schuylers Regiment went away; then General Shirley's came to work there; but the Poor Men were too weak for doing any thing; therefore this work went on very Slowly.

The 19th: of October, General Shirley left Os=wego, and at his Leaving it, The place was in no better Order, than at the time he Came there;

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There being neither Storehouses, nor Barracks, nor Hospital, except two Rooms unfinished for the Sick; but a great distance from the Fort. And the Artil=
=lery was brought into a hollow, within a Work which was Constructed by Captain Bradstreet (but quite useless) which would have taken up a great time, to have brought them to any Place, where they could have been of Service; besides there was not a Person in the whole Garrison, that had the understanding to make any use of it.–
A large quantity of Artillery Stores were left, in one of the out side Sheds in Town; and the Powder kept in a Magazine 4½ feet under Ground, without Air, and Covered with Sods; which like=
=wise was Constructed by Captain Bradstreet.–
One of the Storehouses in the Fort was designed, for a Guard house, and made use of as such; the other Contained in its upper floor, Several Sorts of Goods, such as Blankets, Hatches, small fowling Shot and other Merchandize; with some of the Officers Baggage. in the lower Room was put, by Capt. Bradstreets Order, who was then Commander of the Artillery, Three hundred Shells filled, and about 30 of them fixed, with 18 Barrells of Cartridges for the Cannon, being Pre=
=pared for the Intended Expedition of Niagara; One

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Chest of Trusses for the Shells and Composition; two other Chests with Laboratory Stores; All those things were mixed with goods and Merchandize, but I do not know who they belonged to, otherwise than that Mr. Lewis, Commissary, kept the Key and sent his Negro and other Servants there daily. I Complained to the Commander, Colonel Mercer of this, and the danger that might happen by it, as the Powder Magazine was only divided by a loose Stone Wall; Colonel Mercer in my presence Spoke to the Commissary, who replied that they were all Stores belonging to the King, I Replied, if so, why are not the Soldiers Supply'd with them, as most of them are perishing in the Cold, for want of Blankets to warm them, Lying in sheds without being Covered, from the Rain &c. no answer was made to this; but I bought two Blankets out of that same Store for 30 Shillings, as well as several Officers for the use of themselves, and Soldiers did the same at the above prize, paid down for them In the beginning of the month of December, the rest of the two Regiments, were still en=camped, for want of Barracks, to put them in, and Colonel Mercer seing that the Cold Season was come, and not Provisions enough brought up, to Support the Garrison the whole

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winter (which Consisted then of 500 Men of both Re=
=giments, and one Independent Company) was forced
to grant Several Furloughs, in order to save
the Provisions, for those that Remained, and
detached about 60 Men of General Shirley's Re=
=giment into some Sheds that were made, in
the west designed Fort, and the rest of the
Regiment was put into the Trading Sheds,
which were open on all sides, and not Capable
of keeping out Cold & Rain, and which Caused
a great Sickness and Mortality amongst them;
At the same time when General Shirley left
Oswego, Sir William Pepperells Regiment was
sent over the River, to Fort Ontario, to build
Sheds for themselves.

In the Month of January, some Indians
arrived from the Western Castles, and informed
the Garrison, that the French had Crossed the
Lake, and were Continually Cruising between
Cadaraqui and Niagara. We ourselves in Os=
=wego, having seen those French Vessells off
a near distance for several times, Carrying
Provisions, Stores and Reinforcements, to their
Garrisons; they asked the Reason of our lying
so quiet, with the Vessells, and not preventing
them; they said they Conceived a bad Opinion

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of our Courage, in suffering this, and so many Vessells doing nothing; The Garrison at that time began to be extremely sickly, and num:=bers of them died, for want of the Common Necessaries of Life. — Letters from Major Skinner at that time arrived, which informed us, that the first of April next, he would be with us, with all the Recruits, and likewise those of Sir William Pepperells Regiment, and we all should be encamped at the same time, but in the middle of the month of May, we were so weak in the Garrison, that the Indians Came and Scalpt, and killed the People before us, and we had not Men enough to pursue them properly. —

The 12th of February a Letter from the Indian Interpreter, at the Onondaga Castle, by information from the Indians declared, that the French from Niagara, designed to pass their Castles, with about 1700 Men to meet with the same number from Cadaraqui in order to At:=tack Oswego. — I received then Orders from Col:=onel Mercer, to Fortify as much as possible the Old Fort of Oswego, which I did in making a Breast Work, round the South and South east side, and brought the Cannon out, which were buried in dirt, and mounted them on the Breast

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Work; I likewise Reformed the Lines, which Capt. Bradstreet the Summer before had made, and brought them as much as possible in order. ~ I repeated my Complaints to Colonel Mercer, in regard to the Store House where our Laboratory Stores were mixed, with the Merchants Goods, Colonel Mercer then ordered the Commissary, to bring them out of this Room, which he did and had them Carryed into one of the Vessell's, which all the Winter was obliged to remain crowed with Provisions for want of a Storehouse; Our provisions being then very Short, and if the Soldiers had not died so fast, there would not have been provisions Sufficient to have Sub=:sisted them; by the middle of the Month of February the Garrison then fit for duty at Oswego, and in the West Fort, of General Shirley's Regiment, and One Independent Company 150 Men Officers and their Servants included, besides 3 Officers of the Vessells, and 4 or 5 Sailors, and of Sir William Pepperells at Fort Ontario 175 Men in the whole makes up 330 Men.

February the 26th. Received fresh Intelligence from the Indians that the French designed to Attack Oswego, and at the same time came up 40 Carpenters, for building new Vessells,

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but could not employ them for want of Guards
for them in the Woods, and also no Provisions
to Supply them with, According to their Contract.

March the 20th received the first Batteaus
with Provisions, when we had not more than
for 6 or 8 days, in the Latter end of this Month
received Intelligence of Bulls fort being destroyed,
with all those in it, by the French and Indi=
=ans, upon which Colonel Mercer sent an Ex=
=press, to General Shirley, to let him know
again, the weak and Miserable Situation of
the Garrison, but had no Answer to it, which
made the Garrison beleive they would be cut
off; At this time we cou'd not bring up more
than 12 Men at Oswego, to Releive the Guard;
therefore Colonel Mercer ordered the Garrison from
the West Fort to come in Town, as there
was a few amongst them able for the Service.

The 28th of April received Intelligence that
10 Batteaus with Proirsions were lying at the
Oswego Falls, on an Island, and desired a
party from the Garrison, but being so weak they
cou'd not Spare Men, to bring them up; they
came up without any; There being but 5 days
Proirsions then in the Garrison.

May the 11th Ten Carpenters were Killed,

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and three taken by the Indians, in the Face of the Fort; All the Men that were able went out after them, but could do no more than to kill one of them. ~ The 15th Captain Brad=:streets first Division of Batteaus arriv'd, with about 150, Men, Recruits for both Regiments; The 25th Colonel Schuyler arrived with a Party of 170 Men, and Major Skinner with about 200 Recruits for both Regiments. ~ The Provisions that were brought up with Captain Bradstreet's first Convoy was some of it brought in the lower Rooms within the House in the Fort, but as the Rooms being too Small to contain so large a Quantity, All the Places under the Platform, was filled with flower in baggs and Covered with nothing but oiled Cloths, At the North out side of the Fort towards the Lake was likewise Stored up a Quantity of 300 Barrells of Beef, and the Rest of it and the Pork was Lying in the Streets all without Covering, for want of proper Store houses; and this was the State and Force of Oswego, when I left it which was the 28th May 1756. ~

NB. The Poor Soldiers of both Regiments had not received any Pay, from the 24th of October 1755, when I left that Place

George Demler

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A The Old Fort Consisting of a Store house 56 Feet Long & 26 feet Broad 2 Stories high cover'd with Shingles which was then sur=rounded with a Stone Wall 2½ feet Thick & 14 Feet high made or Laid together with Loose Stones and Crack'd all round, so that we could not Fire the Three Cannon that stood in it for a Salute Least we should shake it down, quite Defenseless and nothing repair'd on it,

B Two Block houses Conected with the stone Wall each of them two Stories high one of them was made use off as a Guard House the other kept for a store house for some of the Artillary Stores, and the most part thereoff fill'd up with Merchandize

C Between them both was C the Powder Magazine dig'd 4½ Feet in the Ground, the sides and upper part of it made of Earth & Coverd with Sodds

D A Stone Wall to Support the Ground where the Foundation of the Fort was sett upon

Marked E. with a brownish colour A Line in figure of a Horn Work made by Captain Bradstreets direction before Gen=eral Shirley came there but quite un=finish'd & useless having before it a Ravelin

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10 Feet higher then the Main Work which was a Great Hinderance in the deffence and Work Towards the Lake side, where is the most danger of the Enemys coming in being quite open, But by Colonel Mercers order last Spring was repair'd as much as Possible and the said out Work demolish'd

Marked Green F   A Breast Work with a Ditch before it made of Faschines and Earth, in the Later end of Feberuary & beginning of March where:on we Mounted 10 Cannon & a Hoyet Mortar & as our Garrison was Too Weak to defend the out Lines, we brought the Cannons then in the Garden G & mounted six of them there with the Rest of the Artillary, as the Ground there was higher then Captain Bradstreets lines, N. the whole Ground was open Towards the Lake and Fort Ontario as the Plan shows.

H   Seven Ovens built when Genl. Shirley was Present, but never made any use off, & not being Coverd they fell down before Christmas

I   An Hospital & Barracks with six Rooms, but when Genl. Shirley Left the Place there was no more then Two under Cover the

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others being finishd last Winter.

K A Guard House Built last Spring

L The Town of Oswego, the Houses therein are made of Loggs & Stones laid together & open every where, Coverd with Barks from the Trees in which our Garrison laid all Winter

M The Dock where the Vessels laid,

N The Intended Fort New Oswego which was begun Building the 10th Octr. 1755 But the Ramport on Two Sides which was Intended to be 10 Feet high, coud not be Carried higher then 3 Feet & the Ditch before it the same Depth, (for want of Workmen)

The Barracks for 4 Officers & 70 Men Erected, and the two remaining sides Surrounded with Stockades as the Plan show's, But the Ramports being intirely deffenseless was oblig'd to put Stockades on the other sides also Last Spring —

O Fort Ontario, made with Stockades from 12 to 14 Inches thick Standing upright one close to the other from 5 to 6 Feet deep in the Ground, & 10 Feet some 12 above Ground, The Barracks within being Built against the Stockades, on the Top of which

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was a Platform Erected for the Soldiers to stand upon and Fire over the Stockades on each of the Raivelines was mounted Two Cannons with Loop holes through the Stockades but as the Ground is very uneven all round the Fort, they could not make any use of them, Before the Enemy should come within Less then Musquett shot of the Fort,

P The New Roads made last Winter in January, to the above Forts

Q The Onondago River

a. a Place on the North side of the Fort at Oswego where Colonel Mercer order'd some Provisions to be piled up against the Wall for Want of Store Houses -

b a Wharff, Built for the Benefitt of the Vessels

C The Point where the Vessels was Built

D The Smiths Shop,

E Carpenters Houses.

F a Hollow Where the Cannon was put in when Genl. Shirley left Oswego, Where when the Rains Fell the Earth wash'd down upon the Cannon & almost burried them

✠ This is the Place where the French Indians

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Kill'd & Scalp'd 10 of our Carpenters and took three of them along with them on the 11th: day of May

G Shadds which the Carpenter's Built against the Wall, which was Built to Bank up the Ground from Falling down —

This Discription and the annex'd Plan is the True State of Oswego, as it was the 28th: of May 1756

George Demler

Albany September 24th: 1756

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Albany, October 2^d. 1756.

May it Please Your Lordship,

To give me Leave to Lay before You, that sometime last Fall, Major General Shirley employd & agreed with Messrs. Cornelius & John Cuylers of Al=:bany to purchase for the Use of the Troops, forty Thousand Skipples of Wheat, or thirty Thousand Bushells D^o. & six Thousand Skipples of Pease, or four Thousand five Hundred Bushells Ditto, on the Mohawks River, that there being but a small Quantity of Pease purchased for the Troops any where else. I was under the Necessity about the Begining of June last, when I had Orders to lay in Magazines of Provisions at the Half Moon, Still Water, & Sarachtoga to send Orders to my Assistant at Schenectady to send me down to Albany by the returning Waggons, & those taken into the Service at that Place & adjacent to it, which would otherwise have come down empty, seven Hundred & fifty nine Bushells Pease, & three Hundred & thirty five Barrels of Rum; That I had carefully calculated the above two Articles, & found there would still be left for the Troops station'd on the Mohawk's River, & at Oswego more by one fourth than their Quota of Pease & Rum. That I am morally certain

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that there never was a Pound Weight of any other Species of Provisions order'd down from Schenectady to Albany, which I can prove by many Wittnesses, That while the Carriages were employ'd in trans=porting Provisions &c. for the Magazines up Hud=sons River, little or none cou'd be sent to Schenectady, so that what it took to serve the Troops & Battoe Men, & what was transported away in the Battoes up the Mohawks River, al=most emptied the Magazine there, that when it was thought necessary to send the forty fourth Regiment & others towards Oswego there was Orders to send to Schenectady four Hun=dred Tierces of Bread & three Hundred Barrels of Pork, I acquainted Major Gen. Abercrombie, that there was not in Store of the Provisions contracted for by Gen: Shirley, above twenty Casks of Bread, & for the Pork, there was not near that Quantity & that there was of it, being dry salted, & most of the Barrels left, were none of the strongest, being designed to be served out here, Upon which he was pleased to give me an Order on Mr. George Saul Agent to the Con=tractors, for the above Quantity of Bread, & Pork, which was accordingly

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sent to Scenectady with all possible Dis=
=patch

I am, with the greatest Respect & Esteem
Your Lordship's most obedient hble Servt.
Robert Leake Commissary of
Stores & Provisions

To His Excellency the Rt. Honble. John Earl of Lou=
=doun, &c, &c, &c, Gen. & Commander in Chief
of all His Majesty's Forces in North America

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Mr. Commis=
=sary Leake / to the Earl of Loudoun / Albany
Octr. 2d. 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter /
of Octr. 3d. 1756. / 58

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Fort Edward 8th October 1756.

Sir,

I arrived here on the 6th and received a parcel of Letters from the Officers that were taken Prisoners at Oswego, which were sent from Canada by an Indian, wrapt up in Bark and hung on a Bush, in a Path about a mile from Fort William Henry, from where they were sent to me; this is the common way of sending Letters from the Enemy, in this Country, in time of War.

I shall make no observations on them, as they speak for themselves; and I am in hopes to get this Letter to New York in time, still to catch the Packet, as by the Winds here, she should not yet be Sailed.

I send you likewise, the Information we have received from Canada, by a Dutchman that was carried off from Schenectady, about the time that I arrived, and a Serjeant of Captain Rogers Ranging Company, who was taken a Prisoner with some more of that Company, in April last; they made their escape together, and arrived here on the 6th.

Major General Abercrombie and I, are here, with the 42d. 44th. & 48th. Regiments, and the New York, and the New Hampshire Regiments; the Royal Americans are at Saratoga: As I thought two Field Officers,

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too few for so many new collected Men, I have for the present divided them into two Battalions; Lieutenant Colonel Bouquet and Major Young, command the first; Lieutenant Colonel Haldiman and Major Robertson, the Second; I was obliged to send Colonel Stanwix to Philadelphia, to carry on the Recruiting and settle the continual disputes with the People, about enlisting Servants; and to endeavour to settle the Quartering of the Troops; which I do not hear the People are any way disposed to do.

We have yet, no further Intelligence of the Motions of the Main body of the Enemy; but if their Canadians venture to come so far from home, to disturb our Convoys, they will give us a great deal of trouble, as we have at present great difficulties, to get Waggons to Transport Provisions this length; If they get a Ruffle it will be next to impossible; but I hope, if they come, we shall give a very good account of them, before they get home again, and if possible, we shall meet them before they strike a Stroke, which I hope we may do if Sir William Johnson arrives in time, and has as good Success with the Indians, at the Congress he is holding with them, as he expects; and if we can get them fairly blooded; it will be of great Consequence to us, as after

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that, they will be in less danger of going to the Enemy, for after they get blood, they are almost irreconcileable.

The Road from Albany hither, except through a few Plantations, which are all broke up, is all through thick Wood; but from Saratoga hither, is as bad a Country as Troops can March through; all High Wood, with a great deal of underwood, and all cut with holows where they may conceal themselves, and have every advantage that an Enemy can have against Convoys, and for making their Retreat; and I am told, it is still worse from hence to Fort William Henry; but in my next, you shall have an Account of that from my own knowledge, as I go there in a few days.

Before I close this Letter, I must take notice of some things, in the Intelligence of the Serjeant that made his escape, which is, as to Mr Wheelwright of Boston, carrying on a Correspondence with, and Supplying the People in Canada, And I have great Reason to believe, there are many more in this Situation, through the Provinces, particularly among the Dutch in Albany.

I think it is worthy of your Serious Consideration, what directions you will give, for

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the King's Servants to proceed by in such Cases: If you direct the Governors to look into it, I think as things stand, it will not Answer; for they have not Power, and are depending on the People, who do not hesitate to say, they have Rights and Privi:
:ledges much greater than the Mother Country; from whence they will Proceed Slow, by which the People Suspected, will have an opportunity of Se=
=creting their Papers, from whence you are like=
=liest to have a Proof in such Cases, and more so in this Country than any other, as so far as I can learn, there never has been an Instance, of any Man's Papers being Seized, for which reason they enter every thing down.

If you expect this Service from the King's Military Servants, I do not see how it can be Executed; If in the Neighbourhood of the Army, I had information of a Correspondence being carried on with the Enemy, I should make no Scruple of Seizing the Author and his Papers, for the immediate Security of the Kings Troops and the Country; but it does not occurr to me, that I could be Justified for going two hundred Miles, into a different Province, at a distance from the Enemy and the King's Troops, and by my Military Office, there Seize a Man in Trust of the Province,

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and Proceed against him; and were I to send the Information against him, to the Administra=
=tion there, I might hear a great deal of it, but I should see no Effects.

As those things occurr'd to me, I thought it my duty to lay them before You.

I shall Propose no Cartel, for the Exchange of Prisoners taken at Oswego, till I receive Your Orders; As there are but a very few of them, absolutely necessary for us to have here.

I had almost forgot to Acquaint You, that the Intrenchments round the Encampment of the three Regiments here, is finished, and I think, in a good posture of defense; The Fort is pretty far advanced, but a great deal still to do, but I hope to have it finished before the Winter setts in hard; when it is done, it will be respectable, and there is a great deal of Ground cleared round it: by my next you shall have a Particular Account of it.

I have the honor to be, with great Respect,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
Loudoun

The Right Honble. Henry Fox Esqr.

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Copy of the Capitulation of Oswego, enclosed in Col: Littlehales Letter to Lord Loudoun of the 30th of August 1756.

Le Marquis de Montcalm Marechal des Camps et Armées, Commandant en Chef les Troupes de S. M. T. C. est prêt à recevoir sous des Conditions honorables, en lui rendant tous les Forts, il les demande Prisonniers de Guerre et d'ailleurs il aura tous les egards que les Nations les plus policés doivent avoir. J'envoye un Aide de Camp à moi, Monsieur de Bougainville Capitaine de Dragons. On n'a qu'a envoyer la Capitulation à Signer. Je demande Reponce d'ici à midy. J'ai gardé Mons. Drake pour Otage ce 14. (Signed) Montcalm.

Demande faite par Monsieur le Commandant de Chouaguen, au Marquis de Montcalm, Marechal des Camps et Armées du Roy, Commandant en Chef les Troupes de Sa Majesté dans l'Amerique Septentrionale.

Article Premier. La Garnison se rendra Prisoniere de Guerre et sera conduite d'ici à Montreal, ou elle sera traité avec humanité, et ou chacun aura le Traitement convenable à son Rang respectif suivant les usages de la Guerre.

2°. Les Officiers et Soldats, et Particuliers, auront leurs Bagages et Habits qui leur sera permit d'emporter avec Eux.

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3°. Ils resteront Prisonniers de Guerre, jusqu'a ce qu'ils soient echangés.

J'accepte les dits Articles, au nom de Sa Majesté Très Chrêtienne, à la Charge de remettre de bonne Foy les Fortifications, L'Artillerie, les Munitions, les Magazines, Barques et Batteaux et Agrées. Je donne Plein Pouvoir à Monsieur de la Pauze Major General de rediger la presente Capitulation, et de convenir de la Forme tant pour s'emparer du dit Fort dont nos Troupes prendront Possession, Que pour assurer qu'il ne soit faite aucune Insulte à la dite Garnison. fait au Camp devant Chouaguen, le quatorzieme Jour à Onze heures du Matin, du Mois d'Aoust 1756.

(Signed) Montcalm.

Endorsed Capitulation of Oswego. / 14th August 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 8th 1756. / 1

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Fort Edward } The Declaration of James Archbold a Ser-
the 6th Octr 1756 } -jeant in Captain Robert Rogers's Compy of Rangers; who about 17 days ago made his Escape from Montreal along with John Veel of Schenectady.

Declareth

That being on a Scouting Party on a Little Island in the Lake near Tionderoge, he with five more of the same Company were Attack'd by two hundred Indians in Bark Canoes, that three of his Party were Kill'd, and himself with the remaining two were Carried Prisoners to Montreal in the Month of April last, where his Residence has been Chiefly since that time;

That he was at Montreal, when the Garrison of Oswego were brought in, which were Computed at 1800 Men; that there were Three Regiments of Regulars before Oswego, which the French Compute at 1000 men each, together with about 3000 Cannadians and Indians, who were Posted about Oswego Falls & the River, to intercept any Convoys and Cutt off the Communication. That at Montreal he had some Conversation with Colonel Schuyler, who told him, that Oswego might have held out Longer, and been sav'd; Provided they had strenthend Fort

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sent to Scenectady with all possible Dis=
=patch

I am, with the greatest Respect & Esteem
Your Lordship's most obedient hble Servt.
Robert Leake Commissary of
Stores & Provisions

To His Excellency the R^t. Honble: John Earl of Lou=
=doun, &c, &c, &c, Gen. & Commander in Chief
of all His Majesty's Forces in North America

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from/M^r. Commis=
=sary Leake/ to the Earl of Loudoun/ Albany
Octr. 2^d. 1756./ in the E. of Loudoun's Letter/
of Octr. 3^d. 1756./ 58

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to the Forts which if they had held out a few days longer, the French would have retired,

That the Private men were Confin'd in a Fort, untill they could send them to Quebeck, to which Place all the Officers were sent before he Escaped; and that while the Officers staid at Montreal, they were Suffer'd freely to walk about the Streets with their Swords.

That the married Women were suffer'd to accompany their Husbands, the other Women were put into Nunnerys

That the Inhabitants of all Ranks are press'd into the Service and are sent up to Crown Point and Ticonderoga.

That while he was Prisoner he saw Six Mohawk Indians, who came in to Join the French at Montreal, but that they had left them, by leave of the Governor at Montreal, after they had heard Oswego was taken.

That the day after Lieutenant Kennedy of the 44th. Regiment, took the Prisoner near St. Johns, the French were very much Provoked, and said it was very impudent; and sent out above 400 Canadians & Indians to Pursue Lieutent. Kennedy's Party and that Stewart a Soldier of the Highland Regiment, one of that Party, having

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cam'd himself, was brought in Prisoner to Montreal.

That he has good reason to believe, that there are Persons at Boston, New York and Al=bany, who hold a Correspondance with the French at Montreal

And lastly that Monsieur Wielliux was As=sembling a Body of Five or Six hundred Indians and Canadians, to attempt to Cut off the Con=voys from Albany to Fort Edward and Fort William Henry.

He further says that he was informed by Peter Labourie a Carpenter who was taken Pri=soner two Years ago at No. 4, That there were many Letters came from Boston to Canada from one Mr. Wheelwright, who is the Person Who pays the Massachusetts Provincial Troops; and provides all their Stores for them to Mr. De Coigny with whom he Trades that he himself saw many things at Montreal that were sent there by Mr. Wheelwright Particularly a one Horse Chaise which was re=markable as being different from all the others at Canada; That he Likewise saw Cloath & other Goods sent there by him; He was likewise inform'd that there were Letters from Mr. Lydiass last year; and that Mr. Lydiass son was at Montreal last year amongst his Relations, but that these letters

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related only to Trade & Contain'd no Information of what was doing And that he has heard of no letters coming from him this Year

But that he was inform'd that many letters are still coming to Canada from Dutch Mercht.s in Albany whose Names he had heard there, but had forgot them as he did not know the People,

He further says, that he was inform'd at Montreal that they were last year supplied with a Great Quantity of Goods for Oswego, and that he heard particularly of a Piece of Very fine Holland Sent from thence to Mor. De Cosgny for shirts: that those Goods were carried from Oswego by the Indians in their Canoes

Endorsed Declaration of Serjeant | Archbold Taken Prisoner / near Ticonderoga in the Month / of April last, carried to | Montreal whence he made / his Escape / Fort Edward 6th Octr. / 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 8th 1756 / m 2 /

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Fort Edward.

the 6th October 1756.

John Veel declareth, that about 17 days ago, he escaped from Montreal with Archbold a Serjeant of the Rangers.

That about nine weeks ago, being in his own field about four miles from Schenectady, he with two more were Carried off by Six Indians, who Crossed Hudsons River at Sagandegaw, from thence he was carried to Tienderoge, where there were but two thousand Men, the rest being gone to Oswego; and that, at that time there were but Sixty Men in Garrison at Crown Point; from thence he was carried by Water to Montreal, where the Indians sold him for 150 Livres to a Baker, with whom he worked till he made his escape; the Indians being allowed to dis=pose of their Prisoners to the best Market.

That he was at Montreal when the Garrison of Oswego was brought in, who were upwards of fourteen hundred Men; That there were only Lieut: Col: Mercer, another Officer and three Soldiers killed, when the Place was given up; That he heard there were about Six thousand French, including Regulars, Canadians and Indians. That he had some Conversation

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with some of the Officers and Men, Particularly with Colonel Schuyler, who was very Angry at Os=wego being given up in such a Manner, and the Private Men did not scruple to say that it was sold to the Enemy. — He observed that Col: Schuyler and Captain Patton separated them=selves as much as possible from the other Officers.

That he heard, that many of the French Indians were so vexed at Oswego's being given up, that they were going to kill some of the English Officers; upon which the French Officers interposed and killed Six of their own Indians

That among other Prisoners taken at Oswego, he saw one Morrison a Wigmaker, (whose Wife lives at Schenectady) with a Cross on his breast, saying that he himself would be a Guide to the French to Albany & Schenectady

That with regard to Provisions, the French had Plenty of Flower and bread, but beef and Pork was very scarce.

That the day before he escaped from Montreal, the Marquis of Montcalm with a Regiment of Regulars sett out for Tinderoge, where they gave themselves out to be fourteen thousand Men; Persons of all Ranks in Canada who are able to carry Arms, being obliged to serve.

Endorsed The Declaration of John Veel taken / Prisoner near Schen=ectady, by the Indians / & carried to Montreal, whence he made his / escape. / dated at Fort Edward October 6th: 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Oct: 8th: 1756.

m 3/

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Copy of Instructions to a Deputy Commissary of Musters, inclos'd in Jas. Pitchers Letter, dated at Montreal August 30th. 1756

On Your Arrival at the Head Quarters of any Regiment, Troop, or Company, you are to give timely notice to the Commanding Officer to Issue out Orders, to have the Corps ready drawn up to be Muster'd at a Certain hour, in the most Convenient place of the said Quarters with the Rolls Clos'd and properly Certified

At the time and place appointed you are to Attend and have a Roll from the Officer of each Troop or Company begining with the Eldest, & call over the Commission'd non Commission'd Officers and Private men, Viewing each Seperatly as he passes by, that he has the proper Cloathing & Accoutriments of the Corps, to which he belongs, & his Fire Arms Clean and well fix'd, with his Sword & other Respective Arms, in good Order, and to make a Report of the Number & Condition thereof.

You are not to allow of any Officer, who has not a Commission from his Majesty, or the General Commander, nor of any little under siz'd man, Lame men, young Boys, or Old men, Except such as have been in the

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Service above Twenty Years, unless by Order from His Majesty, or the Commander in Chief.

When you have calld over the Roll, you are to Demand, Three other Paper Rolls, and one of Parchment, for each Troop, or Company, and unless on a Foreign Expedition, must all be sign'd by a Civil Magistrate of or nearest to the Place of Muster, and the Surgeon or his Mate to Certifie upon Oath on the Commissarys Roll or otherwise for such men as are Sick and Lame, and unable to Appear at the Muster, and where there may be no Surgeon nor Mate the Commanding Officer, must Certifie for the Sick, as well as Absent Men.

You must close the Rolls on the Day of Muster, and transmitt them by the first Convenient Opportunity from time to time to the Commissary Generals Office.

For all other Rules and Instructions You are Refer'd to the Act for Punishing Mutiny & Desertion & to His Majesty and the Generals Orders

All which Orders you are strictly to Observe under Forfeiture of your Employment, and the Penalties inflicted by the said Act of Parliament.

Ja: Pitcher

Endorsed Copy / Instructions to / a Deputy Commissary / of Musters from / by Mr. Pitcher / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr: 8th: 1756 /

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Copy of a Letter from Ja Pritcher Commissary of the Musters to Thomas Sherwin Esqr.

Dear Sir

This I Pleasure my self will find You and your Lady well, to whom please to tender my Compliments

The Regiments that was in Garrison at Oswego not having been Mustered since August, 1755, I was Diffident with my self of Sending a Deputy thither: as their had been many Casualties happend; which would have made it very Dificult for a Stranger to have Settled, therefore I appointed a Deputy to Muster the two Regiments from Ireland (Provided they moved before my Return) and took the Circuit myself to Oswego, but unluckey for me before I could get away, the Garrison was Attackd by it's said about 4000, French Troops, and Indians, under the Command of the Marquis de Montcalm, to whom the Garrison Surrender'd Prisoners of War in the 14th of this Instant.

I have writ this day to Lord Loudoun to Appoint a proper Person to Act during my absence, which I hope will not be long as I am Persuaded you will do me all the Service lies in your Power.

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Most of the Officers are sent to Quebeck, and I expect orders for moving thither every day from whence I shall write you again, my best wishes are for Your health, and am

Dear Sir

Your most Obliged
and most Humble Servant
Ja. Pitcher

Montreal August 30th. 1756.

P S

Mr. Dubois de Crane a Commissary of France was taken in the Alcide on the 8th. of June 1755, & Carried into Halifax, where he was Com=plimented with Staying there or going to England, the latter of which he embraced, as imagining he would be sooner releas'd there then in America.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from/ Mr. Pitcher/ to Mr. Sherwin/ Montreal 30th. Augt. 1756/ in the E. of Loudoun's Letter/ of Octr. 8th. 1756./ 5

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Copy of a Letter from Jas. Pitcher Commissary of Musters, to the Earl of Loudoun,

My Lord

It is with the greatest pleasure I flatter myself that I may Congratulate your Lordship on your safe arrival in America, the reason of our not having had the pleasure, can im=pute only to the great distance we were at, and the intricate Conveyance of Letters.

Unfortunately being at Oswego, when the Garrison was Attack'd by the King of France's Troops under the Command of the Marquis de Mancolm, to whom the Garrison surrender'd Prisoners of War, on Saturday the Fourteenth day of this Instant.

As our time of Releasment is uncer=tain, and as a Prisoner my power is invalid; I must therefore request the favour of your Lordship to appoint a proper person to act as Deputy Commissary of the Musters, during my Absence, and that he may not be intirely at a Loss how to Proceed in that Office I herewith inclose him some Instructions Lieu=tenant Colonel Mercer and a Lieutenant of the Train was the only Officers Kill'd, an Ensign of Sir William Pepperils Wounded.

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very few Privates Wounded or Kill'd, the rest of the Officers, both Regular and Provincial are all well, I am with the greatest Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships most Obed^t.

and most humble Servant

Ja Pitcher

Montreal

August 30th. 1756.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from/ M^r. Pitcher to/ Lord Loudoun/ Montreal 30th. Augt. 1756/ in the E. of Loudoun's Letter/ of Octr. 8th. 1756./ 6

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Copy of a Letter from Housman Broadley,
to the Earl of Loudoun,

Montreal August 30th: 1756

My Lord

I have taken the Liberty by the Permis=
=sion of the Marquis Montcalm General of His
most Christian Majesty's Army, to enclose a
Letter for the Commanding Officer of His Brit=
=anick Majesties Fleet in North America, which
I shall Esteem as a particular favour in your
Lordship to Forward,

I am with great respect
My Lord
Your Lordships
Most Obedient Servant
Housman Broadley

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Captain Broadley
to / the Earl of Loudoun / Montreal 30th Augt. 1756 /
in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 8th 1756/7

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Copy of a Letter from Housman Broadley, to Richard Spry, Esqr. Commander in Chief of His Britanick Majty. Fleet, in North America, at Halifax

Montreal Augt. 30th. 1756

Sir

The Marquis of Montcalm General of His most Christian Majesty's Army, has given me leave to acquaint you, that in the Capitulation, on the Surrender of the Garrison of Oswego, The Vessels there under my Command, were Given up, and the Officers and men made Prisoners of War.

The Marquis Vaudreuil Governor of New France has promis'd that Captain Laforey and myself with Messrs. Carpenter and Drane our Lieutenants, shall be sent to France.

The Situation we are in, makes it im=proper for me to be more Explicit.

I am

Sir

Your most hble Servt.

Housman Broadley

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Capt. Broadley to / Captain Spry / Augt. 30th. 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 8th. 1756 / 8

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Copy of a Letter from Thos: Cheshire Adjutant to G Shirleys Regiment To Capt: Jocelyn Command: a Detachment of the 50th: Regi=ment at the Oneida Great Carrying place

Dear Sir

I am well & Prisoner of War, with many other Officers, taken at Oswego, by the Marquis of Montcalm; If any Letters from England, or other things, belonging to me, should fall in your way, I shall esteem it a particular favour if you will order them to be taken Care of for

Dr: Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Thos: Chesshire

At Montreal 30th: August 1756

The Garison was invested the 11th: Inst. & Sur=rendered the 14th: Colonel Mercer & a Lieutenant of the Artillary killd & two Officers Wounded, there were Likewise some few men Kill'd, but upon the whole our Loss was not very Considerable.

To Captain Joceylin –

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Adjutant Chesshire / To Capt: Jocelyn / Montreal 30th: Augt: 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Oct: 8th: 1756 / 9

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P.R.O., London
C.O. 5:47

Copy, of a Letter from Mr. Benzil To the Honble: Robert Hunter Morris Esqr: Lieutenant Governor of Pensilvania

Sir

Upon application, Monsieur le Marquis de Moncalm consented on my writing on your Honour The Eleventh of August Fort Ontario was Attack'd and the 14th: at Eleven a Clock before Noon, Fort Oswego was delivered to his most Cristian Majesty by Capitulation the whole Garrison made Prisoners of War. Colonel Mercer & one Lieutenant of the Artilerie were kill'd the same morning between Nine & ten, Two Officers of the 51st: Regiment Slightly Wounded, The whole Number of the Garrison kill'd very inconsiderable not exceeding forteen Serjeants and Private some more were since murderd by the Indians, and their own drunken Miss Conduct -

Since our arrival to Montreal we are used with the greatest Civilities and Distinction, It is mention'd Concerning a a Cartel to be Settled for the Exchange of Prisoners, which gives my hopp's of soon seeing your Honnour, I would have inclosed in the Governors, a Letter for Mrs Benzel, But as I am according to my parole Obliged to send it open, I have Conse=

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=quently nothing Particulare but desire the favour the Governor pleases to inform Mrs Benzil that I am as well as a Prisoner can expect in Par=ralel Circumstances and that I had not the honour to receive the last Mark in the Execution of my duty, The favour that the General le Mar=quis de Mon_Calm and Several Officers in the French Armie of my old Acquaintances, are Sen=cibly Great in having received this Opportunity of Acquainting my Family, and assuring the Gover=nor, to whom I am indepted so much regard, that I remain unviolabley and with the greatest estime Sir

Your Honours

Most Humble most Obedt. Servt.

Benzell

Montreal Augt. 30th. 1756 —

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Mr. Benzell to Governor / Morris of Pensilvania / Montreal 30th. Augt. 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 8th. 1756 / 10

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Copy of a Letter from Pat. Mackellar to James Montresor Esqr. Chief Engineer to His Britan=
=ick Majesty's Expedition North America.

Montreal in Canada Augt. 31st. 1756

Sir

I take this Opportunity to acquaint you that Mr. Sowers, and my self were with the rest of the Garrison of Oswego made Prisoners of War the 14th. Instant, with which youl please to ac=
=quaint the Commandr. in Chief, and the Board of Ordinance when there is an Opportunity And I am with Compliments to all Friends

Sir

Your most Obedient &
most Humble Servt.
Pat. Mackellar

James Montresor Esqr.

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Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Mr. Mackellar to Mr. / Montresor / Montreal Augt. 30th. 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 8th. 1756 / 11

copy

Copy, of a Letter from John Littlehales, Esqr. Lieu:
:tenant Colonel to the 50th. Regiment To The
Earl of Loudoun Dated at Montreal 30th. Augt. 1756 –

My Lord

As I am Honour'd with this Opportunity, Beg leave to Acquaint your Lordship, that the Garrison of Oswego, was Invested the 11th. Instant, by the Troops of His most Christian Majesty, that on the 14th. being Cannonaded Flank and Rear, and our Works Expos'd through Out, and likewise surround:
:ed in Front by a Considerable Body of the Enemy, we Beat the Chamade, and sent two Officers with a Flag of Truce, to the Marquis of Mont:
:calm Commander in Chief of His Most Christi:
:an Majesty's Troops, who immediatly sent us back the Enclosed Proposal by the Aid de Camp therein Mention'd, Whereupon the Articles of Cap:
:itulation Annex'd thereunto were Unanimously Agreed upon in a Council of War, and Com:
:ply'd with.

Our Loss during the Siege was not Con:
:siderable, the Officers kill'd were Lieut. Colonel Mercer our Comandant, Lieutenant De la Cours of the Artilary, & two Officers Wounded, the Num:
:ber of men lost during the Siege did not Exceed 12 or 14 But after the Capitulation,

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some of them having got in Liquor fell into Wrangling with the Indians & Several of them were Kill'd, But the Number as yet is Un=certain. On the day Following the Officers and some of the men were Embark'd on Board, Battoes, and sent to this place; the Remainder were Embark'd afterwards at Different times as Conveniency Permitted, and are now mostly sent to Quebeck, Where I understand the whole are to follow in a few days,

Since our Arrival at this place we have been Treated with all imaginable Polite=ness, and I have no Reason to doubt of a Continuance.

I hope there will be a Cortell soon settled, and that I shall have the Honour of Assuring Your Lordship in Person that I am

My Lord
Your Lordships most Obedt.
and Devoted Humble Servt.
Jn. Littlehales

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Lieut. Col. Littlehales / to the Earl of Loudoun / Montreal 30th Augt. 1756 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 8th 1756. / 12

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Copy of a Letter from Colonel Peter Schuyler to His Excellency the Commander in Chief of His Britannick Majesty's Forces in North America, dated at Montreal the 30th August 1756.

Monsieur,

Je prens cet Occasion pour avertir à Votre Excellence que moi et les Officiers suivans de mon Regiment etoions pris Prisoniers de Guerre à la Capitulation de Choüaguen (Oswego) et que tous se portent bien.

Après avoir lu cette Lettre, votre Excellence aura la bonté de la faire envoyer à Monsieur Belcher Gouverneur de la Nouvelle Jersey, et je suis avec le plus respect &c.

Copy of a Note Inclosed.

Colonel	Peter Schuyler.
Captains	Wm. Skinner Nathl. Rusco. Henry. Beekers
Lieutenants	Danl. Perrine. John Skinner.
Ensigns	Amos Ogden John Walters
Surgeon	Ben: Stakes
Mate	Gil: Lester

Si l'on veut vous faire tenir des reponses toutes ouvertes, La bonne foy françoise vous fait esperer quelles vous serons serons remises avec seureté, en les faisant parvenir suivant les usages receües dans les Nations Policées.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from Col: Schuyler / to the Commander in Chief dated / from Montreal the 30th August 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 8th. 1756 / 13

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New York 11 October 1756

Sir

I embarked at Falmouth ye 26th of August in the General Wall Packet, which was the first that Sailed after I received my Dispatches, and landed her the 6th of this Month; having narrowly escaped being taken in the Passage by a French Privateer that attacked us in a Calm by help of her Oars near Cape Clear. I ac:quainted the Earl of Loudoun immediately with my Arrival, by an Express that Sir Charles Hardy sent off the next Morning; and that I should proceed to Albany to receive his Lordship's Commands. The day following Mr. Pownall came down from Albany, in a Sloop that was Sent to carry up Money for the Pay of the Troops; Who brought an Account that Lord Loudoun was gone from thence, but encouraged me Still to pro:ceed thither. Accordingly I am waiting only the Mo:tion of that Sloop, to do so.

Let me entreat you, Sir, to beleive that I have nothing more at heart, than to acquit myself faithfully of the Trust his Majesty hath been pleased to repose in me; and that I am with all due Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient
and very humble Servt.

Rt. Honble. Henry Fox Esqr.

Edmd. Atkin

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Copy

Falmouth Novr. 17. 1756.

Sir

I come to England sent by Lord Loudoun, & honor'd with His Commands to attend his Majesty's Ministers on ye matters of his Lordship's Dispatches, shou'd it be found necessary to explain or Answer to any of ye Things therein Proposed.

I receiv'd his Lordship's Dispacthes & Sett out from Albany (in ye Province of N York) Octr. 5. Arrived at New York ye 9th. Embark'd thence in ye Earl of Leicester Packet the 15th. Arrived at Falmouth this Day. the 17th. of Novr. I have forwarded His Lordship's Dispatches by ye Mail: & will follow with ye best Expedition I am able to make, having not quite regained my Strength by an Imperfect Recovery at Sea from an Ugly Feaver I had scarce gott rid of when I left Albany.

I suppose it my Duty to notifye the above to You, if thro my inacquaintance with the Forms of Business I shoud be mistaken, I beg Your Candor to excuse it. If not, Permitt me Sir, to beg ye Favor of You to acquaint Mr. Fox of my Arrival & to Pay my Duty to him.

I have ye honor to be. Sir. with ye highest Respect

Your most Obedt.

& humble Servt.

T Pownall.

Claudius Amyand Esqr.

Under Secretary of State.

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Fort Edward 12th: October 1756.

Sir,

I had last Night, the honor of Your Letter of August 14th: with the Copies of your Letters to Sir Charles Hardy, Governor Laurence, and Lieutenant Governor Dinwiddie; as Mr: Dinwiddies Letters, are by mistake sent to me, I shall forward them by Express, and write along with them; and nothing shall be wanting on my part, neither in Virginia, nor any of the other Provinces, to prevent the Enemy from being supplied with Provisions; but from my last Letters, You will see the difficulties, I apprehend, will attend putting that neces:=sary measure in Execution.

The Letter here mentioned to Govr: Laurence, informed him of the Draughts ordered from Ireland to Nova Scotia.

In my last Letter, I Acquainted You with the Situation of the Troops, and the Intelligence we had received; Nothing now has happened since, nor have the Enemy made any Motions, we can dis:=cover by our Scouting Parties, some of which, go to great distances from hence, but have never discovered the Tracts of any numbers of them moving, but seem only to be Parties to bring them Intelligence.

By my last Night's Letters, I have

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an Account, of 380. Planters from Germany being arrived at New York, and another Ship hourly expected, that came out with them.

I send you enclosed, a Copy of a Letter from Colonel Williams, from whence you will see, that when he writ, there were not any Officers Ap:pointed, to Command the Aid, Mr. Shirley Ac:quaints me, he had procured to the Provincials; from where you will Judge, whether that Aid was intended to Act, or only to Talk of.

The Intelligence he inclosed in it, was a very undistinct Account, of the Taking of Oswego, and lays the blame of that Affair, on Colonel Mercer, which no other Account has done; And the report in Canada, of the Enemy having 14000. Men at Crown Point; and that they had under:mined it, in order to blow it up after we are in Possession, in case we take it: I wish there were nothing to hinder us from taking it, but that danger.

I am told by private Letters from London, that His Majesty has ordered some Additional Companies from Ireland, to compleat the Regiments in Nova Scotia, but I imagine this must be a mistake, as I have two Letters from Lord Barrington, which make no mention of it; His Lordship

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having mentioned nothing to me, but two Lieu=
=tenants of the Royal Americans, who had re=
=mained in England, having obtained leave to
go into other Corps; and two others being Appointed
in their Place; And the Memorial of a Deputy
Chaplain, of Lieut: Genl. Otways Regiment, who
I left behind with His Royal Highness Approbation,
on account of his being Mad.

When any Troops are sent, I must beg
to be informed, as my not being Acquainted,
may oblige me to make, a very different dis=
=position of the Troops, from what I should do
if I were informed.

I have the honor to be, with great Respect,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
Loudoun

The Right Honble: Henry Fox Esqr:

Endorsed Fort Edward Octr: 12th: 1756/ Earl of
Loudoun. / Ry Decr: 2d:

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C.O.5: 47

Copy

Hatfield October 6th. 1756

My Lord

The last Night I received a Letter from Lieutenant Parker of No. 4 on Connecticot River, of which the Enclosed is Copy, as it Contains Matters of great Importance I tho't it my duty to forward it for Your Lordships Information

As to the Truth of the Narrative I am not a Judge - Suspect there may be some Gasconade; but am apprehensive the most Interesting part, (at this Juncture) will turn out near the Truth.

I am Collecting the Number of men I was directed to send, for the Releif of the Provincials, under General Winslow, as fast as Possible, the Re=:giment is not Organiz'd no Officers appointed to Command the men

Since the receipt of Your Lordships orders I have sent an Express to Acquaint Lieutenant Governor Phipps with the unhappy Omission, am waiting his return

I am Your Lordships
most Obedt. most Humle. Servt.
I Williams

Earl of Loudoun

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52 P

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Colonel Williams / to Lord Loudoun / Hatfield Octr. 6th. 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Octr. 12th. 1756

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Albany 22d November 1756.

Sir,

The last Packet going from hence, without any Letter to You from me, was no fault of mine; for She had orders not to Sail till my Letters arrived; and without giving me the least notice, She went off whilst I was at Fort Edward: and in reality, She went off the Day I received the first certain Intelligence of the motions of the Enemy, in consequence of which I made the dis=position of the Troops here; for which reason, I have ordered a Guard to prevent such Accidents for the future; as I have no other way of Gov=erning People at two hundred Miles distance from me.

Since the last Letter I had the honor to write to You, from Fort Edward, October the 12th, Captain Rogers, of one of the Ranging Companies, brought us a Prisoner, whom he took within the out Posts at Tienderoga, whose Examination you have enclosed; and by my other Scouting par=ties, I had the Intelligence he gives, of the Enemy drawing off their Troops, confirmed; on which, we immediately made the disposition, for putting our Troops into Winter Quarters likewise.

The Disposition I have made for this

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purpose, is:– from the 44th & 48th, I have taken the Garrisons for Fort William Henry and Fort Edward; at the first I have posted four Companies, which I have compleated to One hundred Men each, and Appointed Major Eyres, who Fortified the place, to take the Command. And I have given them, two Ranging Companies of Fifty Men each, to get them Intelligence, in order to prevent sudden Surprizes.

At Fort Edward, I have posted five Com=panies, compleated likewise to one hundred Men each, with a field Officer to Command; and two more Ranging Companies as above.

The remainder of those two Regiments, I bring to Albany.

As the Province of New York have re=solved, to keep up during the Winter, Eight hun=dred Men of their Regiment, which they reduce into Eight Companies, one of them to be a Com=pany of Rangers, I have posted them at Sara-toga, Stillwater and Halfmoon; by which I propose, not only to keep up the Communication with the Forts this Winter, but likewise to have it in my Power, in case of the Enemy making any Motion to Attack any of the Forts, at once to throw in a Reinforcement of two or

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three hundred Men, where wanted: which re=inforcement can be thrown in, in a day, on receiving Intelligence of the Enemys Motion.

I expect further, by those Ranging Companies, and the disposition of the New York Regiment, to prevent the Enemy from making Incursions into the Settled Country: and hope totaly to prevent Scalping parties: If we have early enough, Intelligence by our Rangers, we shall be strong enough every where, to meet them, and drive them back: and if they should escape us in going down, we must be able to cut off their Retreat.

The 42d. Regiment, I quarter at Schenec=tady, from whence they take the Posts on the Mohawk River; at Herkermers, which I have put a Ditch and Palisade about; the Indian Forts at Conajahore and Fort Hunter amounting to about Two hundred and Fifty Men, with propper Officers to Command in each.

At this place, I keep the 35th. Regiment, with the remains of the 44th. & 48th. Regiments.

The Royal Americans, you would see by my former Letters, I had been obliged to Collect all into one Battalion, and bring them here, in order to assist us to make a Stand;

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they are all now returned to New York, where I divide the whole into the four Battalions, to be a foundation to recruit from, and discipline the Men as we collect them. I have fixed their Quarters in the following manner, the 2d Battalion at New York; the 4th in the Jerseys; the 1st at Philadelphia; And the 3d in Maryland, and the lower Counties of Pensilvania. The remains of the 50th & 51st Regiments, which amount to about three hundred, I send to Boston; And shall disperse them to Towns in New England, as they encrease in Numbers.

As I have found the Independent Com=panies, in as bad a Condition as Troops can be; and see no Effects, from any orders my prede=cessor may have given for compleating them; I am unwilling to trust them totaly to themselves in Recruiting; therefore I have divided them, and sent them along with the different Battalions; the Commanding Officer of which, is to review & ap=prove of their Recruits, and to make me returns of their Success, and report their diligence. Cap=tain Gates, goes with the 1st Battalion of the Royal Americans; Captain Wraxal, with the 3d Battalion; Captain Marshal with the 4th; And Captain Richmond, with the 50th & 51st Regiments.

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The 35th the 44th and 48th Regiments, Re=cruit in the County, from New York to Virginia, both Included, which are the only recruiting Coun=tries we have; and by the Recruiting Officers of those three Regiments, the Royal Americans, and the three Independent Companies, are as full as they can hold; which was the reason of my sending the 50th & 51st Regiments, & Captain Rich=monds' Company to New England. I have likewise, ordered home the Recruiting Officers from Nova Scotia, on finding them near compleat, And that you had Acquainted Colonel Laurence by Letter, that drafts were ordered from Ireland to compleat them.

As to the Forts, I wish I could make you a better report; that at Lake George is built on a running Sand, which is the case of most of the Ground near it, so that the ditch constantly fills up; and next year, if we can=not push far enough to make it useless, must be faced up with boards and Fascines: the works are all faced up with Logs - bound in; but they have neither been carefull to Pick good Timber for that purpose, nor secured them well at the Ends; and the Sand is so loose, that I am afraid if it were battered with Cannon,

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it would run thro' between the Logs; – and it is Commanded by a rising ground pretty near it: And I shall hardly be believed, when I say, I have not yet seen a place for a Fort, that can Command a River, a Lake or a Pass, that is not itself Commanded. The Barracks within, will be finished in a few days: I have added a new Casemate to it, those built last year, having taken Wett and damaged the things in them. I have laid in large Magazines of Provisions, both at this Fort and Fort Edward, where the sand is more Clayey, and stands better, and all the Timber it is built of, good and well dovetail'd at the Angles: it will not totaly be finished this Season, nor all the Barracks built, but we have fitted up the Wooden houses that were there, for the Officers, with which they will do tolerably well this Winter; the Men will be all in the Barracks. In this Fort there are large Casemates. There was a work pro=posed in the Island, to Strengthen it, but as I was not able to finish it, I have not begun it.

In a former Letter, I said it would be formidable, it will so; but since that I have Sur=veyed & Measured it, and find there has been great faults in the Construction, for they have not taken the propper care of the Line of Defense, by

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which the Faces of the Bastions are not propperly defended, and one of them draws no fire at all from its opposite Flank.

It comes in naturally here, to mention the Ranging Companies, which are a considerable Expence; and as I have formerly told You, that those raised by Mr Shirley except Rogers Com:=pany, came very late into the field, & all on different Establishments, I have put it into Major General Abercromby's hands, who is still at Fort Edward, where they are, to settle that, and bring them all on one footing: those that did not prove usefull, I have dismissed; and am compleating the other Companies.

As we have at present 110 Indians, but a handfull of Mohawks, and a few straggling Indians from different tribes, and those at pres:=ent not usefull, there is no carrying on the Service here without Rangers; for it is only by them, we can have Intelligence of what motion the Enemy are making; and by them, that we can secure our Camps and Marches from Sur:=prizes; from where it appears to me, that till we can regain the Indians, which can only be done by beating the Enemy, no Army can sub:=sist in this Country, without Rangers, for that

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reason, I propose this Winter to keep five or six Companies, if I can find as many good ones.

The Provincial Troops, are now all passed this, in their way home; except about one hundred, Sick at Fort William-Henry, and some Trades Men, that have staid to finish the works at the two Forts.

I informed you in a former Letter, that all the Provinces had made over the remains of their Provisions to the Contractor, at the Original Price, except the Massachusets Bay, and that they had refused it; but since that, they have found out, that as they never sent out the number of Men they had stipulated to furnish, they would have a great Stock on hand, which would not bear the expence of carrying home again, so have lately writ to me, to beg I would take them, which I have done, on the same footing with the others; but they did not take this resolution, till after they had obliged me, to carry up almost all the Provisions necessary for those two Garrisons, at a very great Expence, and at the same time in:=convenience to other parts of the Service.]

The most usefull Man I have found among the Provincials, is a Colonel Meserve, who Commands the Regiment from New Hampshire; he is a Shipbuilder, & is an Active Sensible Man.

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that has no Scruples, but is ready to do whatever you desire of him; he has built us a bridge from Fort Edward to the Island; he has built us large flat bottom'd boats, for passing rivers and carrying great Loads; he has greatly as=sisted in carrying on the Fortifications; and now at last, has got his People to engage by the Piece, to finish some of the Barracks, and to raise one whole face of the Fort five feet, much cheaper than we could have done it; And by him, I have got a large Quantity of Timber cut, to be floated down here, for making Car=riages for the Cannon, which almost all I have seen in this Country stand much in need of; and there is very little to be got, and that very dear; by this means I shall have a very large Stock Provided, at no other Expence but the Cutting & Floating down; and in a little time, have Season'd Wood, which is a thing not to be found in this Country at pres=ent. As he has received nothing for his La=bours and Pains, (for the Colonel does not scruple to work with an Ax, when he sees other People do not do it to his liking;) I propose to make him a Present of a Piece of Plate, of the value of Twenty five or Thirty

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Pounds, which will make him happy, and I hope, raise an Emulation among the others. This is the only gratuity I have yet proposed to give.

I come now to the Quartering of the Troops, in which I apprehend I shall have a good deal of difficulty.— As soon as the Enemy began to draw off their force, I immediately writ to the Governors, where I proposed to take up the Winter Quarters, to provide for receiving them. I have had no answer from any of them but Sir Charles Hardy, who Acquainted me of the difficulty he had with the People on that Article, but that he did not doubt of getting all that Settled.

But my private Intelligence Informs me, that the Plan of the People there, is to lodge the present Numbers, a little above four hundred, in some Barracks and blockhouses, and to make no Preparation for the Recruits or Officers. As this will be the first Quarter in the lower part of the Country, into which the Troops will go, all the others will follow their Example; therefore, I have writ Sir Charles a very Civil Letter, but at the same time informing him of what I hear, and shewing him that Plan will not Answer, because I hope soon to Augment that Battalion to a thousand Men; that the Officers have a

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right to Quarters as well as the Men; That Quar=tering in time of Peace and War are entirely different; in the first it is confined to Publick Houses; that in time of War, necessity obliged the General to Quarter the Troops, where the Security of the Country, and the carrying on of the Ser=vice, made it necessary for them to be, that I had often seen this practised, where the Houses of the People of the first Rank, in the Coun=try, were not excempted, and I never heard it complained of; that if any thing can justify that measure, it was the Situation of New York at present; that as things are situated, had I demanded Quarters for two Battalions, I should have had reason to have been surprised at even a delay in granting it; That it gave me great uneasyness to see things on this footing in New York, as necessity obliged me to place Troops there, and that I could not justify myself, If I did not.

There are two reasons for labouring this Point; first, the Battalion that goes into New York, is the first that Marches into any Quarters, (except here & Schenectady, where I am on the Spot, and am able to keep things right, in spite of all the Obstinacy of the Old dutch

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Inhabitants) And that whatever is done there, will be the rule by which all the other Towns will govern themselves; and I had better dispute the Point with the first Opposers, than have afterwards an uphill work with all the others.

My reason for insisting on the Point of the Officers, is, that as my Predecessor had parties to support in every corner of the Country, he totaly gave up the right of Quartering, to make his Court to the People. the Soldiers he Quartered in Barracks, with double rows of beds; to the Officers he gave Slaap Gelt out of the Contingencies, which did not near Pay for their lodgings, the People were so extravagant in the Price they took for them.

As this Country will not furnish any Money for carrying on the War, except in the Instances I shall have occasion to mention below; And even have withdrawn the little they did furnish formerly, before the Regiments were sent over; such as fire and Candels &ca for the Independent Companies;

My Plan is to Quarter the whole, and give no Slaap Gelt, which will be a Saving to the Publick; and indeed to get all I can out of the People here, to save so much of the Expence at home.

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Here, I have put every body but myself into Quarters, but have always paid my own: for this reason, that every one may see, that I de=mand nothing of them, but for the Service of the Publick; and in no Shape whatever, take any thing can turn to my own private advantage.

I have taken those measures, because they appear to me right, and if I cannot carry them through, will be as late in compounding as the circumstances will permit; I hope they will appear to you in the same light, if they do not, I shall alter them whenever I receive direc=tions so to do; but I do expect to get through, for the People in this Country, tho' they are very obstinate, will generaly submit when they see you determined.

Before I leave this Subject, which is propperly the Military part of my Letter, I must mention the State of Recruiting in Pensilvania; we have hitherto reapt very little benefit from the Act relating to Servants, from the general resist=ance of the People, and the Justices insisting, they are Judges of the Sum the Man is worth to his Master, without calculating the Original Price, and ordering, in Proportion to the Years remain=ing to serve; but this I hope to get the better

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of, as soon as I get to Philadelphia.

In New England, we have very bad Success; owing to several Causes, first, the People of the Country give every discouragement, Publickly and Privately, to prevent the People from Enlisting; as you may see, from what was done last year in Nova Scotia, by Mr. Shirley and Mr. Winslow; which last, has this year carried on that Plan so far, as to refuse allowing the Ranging Companies, from engaging any of the Provincials that were on their March home: this I got the better of; but without Quarrelling with the whole Officers of the Provincials, I could not have listed their Men for the Troops so that I forbore till they get home, when we shall I hope, Pick up some of them; tho' I have had three Officers, two Months in New England, and not got one Man yet.

There is another cause prevents our getting Recruits there, since Mr. Shirley gave liberty to the People, to hire any Man they could get, good or bad, to March with the Provincials in their stead, they have given very high Premiums for Men to serve this Campaign; many have given this year Ten Pounds Sterling for Men to serve this last Campaign in their stead: this Information I have

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from many People there, amongst whom, are Ma=jor Genl. Winslow and their Commissioners here.

In justice to the Provinces, on the other hand, I must mention the assistance they have given to Recruiting.— Virginia has voted Eight thousand Pounds Currency, for raising Recruits to compleat the Royal American Regiment; this they have put into the Lieutenant Governors hands, and he immediately set about raising them; but as they cannot Judge, who are fit to make Soldiers of, I have sent Officers there to receive them, and let them know what Men will do, and what will not, for otherwise the Money may be ex=pended, and the Service not benefitted.— Mary=land has given three thousand Pounds of their Currency, for raising Recruits for the Royal Ameri=cans, and put that into Governor Sharp's hands, who is going on with it. They have likewise voted Two thousand Pounds to buy Wheat for the support of the Troops; this I have sold to the Contractor, and shall apply the Money to the Publick Service, and Account both to the Province and the Crown for it.— I am informed from Pensilvania, but have no Account yet of it from the Governor, that the Assembly have voted Ten Thousand Pounds of their Currency, to be

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put into my hands, for raising Recruits for the Royal American Regiment. I am not sorry, one of the Provinces have putt the Money for this purpose into my hands, as I hope by that, to introduce a Custom, of making a faithful Account to that Government, of the manner in which that Money is disposed of, which is a thing they have not been used to, where Expeditions have been concerned.

Since I writ last, I have received a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Littlehales, from Quebeck, a Copy of which you have enclosed; it was found on a Bush near Fort William Henry, as the former Letters were; there were several other Letters with it, from the Officers, which contain nothing but directions about their Private Affairs: by this Letter from Mr. Littlehales, it appears, that Mr. McKeller, the Engineer; the Commissary of the Musters; and the Commissary of the Stores, one Lewis; are all sent to England: this last Man can inform you, of the whole of the Affairs at Oswego; the Condition of the Regiments, how Paid; the Situation of the Troops, as to Provisions and Barracks; And how they were lodged all Winter:_ He can inform you, of the private Trade that was carried on by Mr. Shirley's People;

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all which was at the Kings Expence; as he was their Agent, and Sold the goods for their behoof. I sent by Mr. Pownall, his account with Mr. Irwin, the General's Son in Law Mr. Alexander, his Secretary, and some other People in Partnership; in this Account you will find, tho' he was in the Kings Service, as Commissary, and received Pay as such, that he charged five per Cent. on the Money he paid to the Work Men. this first Account fell into my hands, by being directed on His Majestys' Service: the Abstract of it, likewise Signed by his own hand, which went over with the other, was pickt up at Oswego after the French were gone, and brought back, by one of the People we sent there, to Shew he had been there. If those People arrive safe in England, You will have better Evidences to find out the truth from, than I have here, in case you have a mind to make an En=quiry into it; but if either Mr. Shirley, or Mr. Alexander his Secretary, get hold of Mr. Lewis, the Commissary of Provisions, he will not be half so good an Evidence afterwards; as Mr. Alexander seems to me, to be deeply Interested.

You may likewise from them, come at the true history, how those two Regiments were

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never regularly Paid, and so many Musters owing to them at last, which is a thing, I never have been able yet to come at, but if possible I will,

I had resolved, to have had a General Court Martial of the Principal Officers in the Army, to have Enquired into the cause of the loss of Oswego, in order to have transmitted it to you; but the Enemy have kept the field so very late, and I am forced to disperse the Troops at such a distance; and the Frost's being begun, and every day likely to shut up the Communica=tion, that I begin to doubt, it will not be in my Power to finish it without stopping more material business; for I have still all the Pre=parations to make for the next Campaign, and I must be at Boston to meet with the New England Governments; and I must likewise be at Philadelphia, where I propose a meeting of the Southern Governors: At the first I must endeavor, first to settle those Parties that Mr. Shirley has blown into such a Flame, and settle Provisionally, what Aid they will give next Campaign, against you send me your Orders, in consequence of the Plan I open'd in my last Letter, or any other you may think propper to direct, or what other Plan we may form here, in case you send us

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no directions.

As to the Southern-Governments, I pro:=pose to settle a Plan for them, to defend themselves, and to endeavor to make an appear:=ance of making an Attack on the Enemys Forts there; but as I have no opinion of their doing any thing without Troops, I mean at pres:=ent that this should only be an appearance, and not Expensive, just to prevent the Enemy from sending People from that Quarter, to rein:=force their Troops which we are to meet with.

At the same time, I shall be able to follow out the Intercepted Letters, which has not been in my Power hitherto.

[I must mention] one thing more,] before I finish this part of my Letter, [which is [a demand that has been made on me, by Mess.rs Livingston and Morris, who were employed by Mr. Shirley, to provide Provisions, working Tools, and every thing that was wanted for the Army, or the Ships on the Lakes, in 1755; Mr. Alex:=ander the Secretary, and several others of the Generals People, were join'd with this Living:=ston in the Commission; this Year, Nobody ap:=pears but Morris to be join'd with him, tho' I find Mr. Alexander making Contracts for them,

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which has very much the appearance of his being some how concerned, as Livingston is married to his Sister; His Demand is about Fifteen thousand Pounds, as the ballance of his Account, which amounts to about one hundred thousand Pounds. Before I paid so large a Sum, or ventured to strike a ballance on so large an account, I desired to see the accounts for the whole, which I got in several books; it was stated as Merchants do their own accounts, every sort of Article mixt, as he made the Payments, and not a voucher produced for any Article; And as he is a Merchant, and had no Employment, and of course no Sallary from the Government he accord=ing to the custom of this Country, charged five per Cent on the whole, for his trouble. What he proposed to be in place of Vouchers, was his Journal and a Leidger; and thinking them sufficient, he had not kept the bills of Parcells, but had taken the receipts in a Book; which when I come to see them, they were in general Acquittances to him, but did not shew the Quantity, and many of them, not the kind of things furnished; when I told him those would not do at the Auditors, he went and searcht for what Vouchers he had re=maining, and brought me many for small Ar=ticles; but at last with some difficulty I got

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him to shew me some Accounts of People, wth. home he had large dealings: He shewed me two Accounts of Mr. Hunters in Virginia, and two Accounts from two Justices of the Peace in Schenectady; in each of those four Accounts, they charge five per Cent for their trouble, and he likewise charges five per cent on the whole, which makes the Government Pay ten per cent, besides the Commission, on the Commission charg=ed by the first buyer. how many more of those may come out hereafter, is more than I know; but on seeing the Account in General not vouch=ed, and seeing those four Vouchers, I thought the Affair too deep for me to meddle with, and have advised his sending the Accounts to Mr. Shirley and Mr. Alexander, to pass and get the Ballance from the Treasury.

I come now to your Indians; from the beginning I saw you had little to expect from the Six Nations at present; they have been ill used in evry Shape, by the People who formerly had the Management of them.

This, the French have not fail'd to take the advantage of, and shewed to them in the strongest light; And on that foundation, have trumpt up Copies of Letters, to shew them our further

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designs against them; among others, they have forged a Letter from the King my Master to the French King, with a proposal, to join, des=troy and drive away the whole Indians, and divide their Country between them: in their present dispositions, all those things have Effect; for the present Politicks of all the Indians we have any connection with, (And I hope some of the french Indians will follow them) is to lie by, and let us fight our own Battles ourselves, by which mea=sure they propose, first to give no offence to the Conqueror, and they very well know, the more we weaken one another, they will be of the more Consequence; And you will see, from the Intelligence now sent by Mr. Dinwiddie, that notwithstanding the Accounts they have repeatedly sent me ever since I arrived, that the Indians in their Neighbourhood, were in such friendship with them; that their Indian Affairs there, are no better than here; and that the moment they were called on, to furnish that Aid they will always promise whilst they are receiving Presents, they furnished none; and it will be very well, if they do not join your Enemys.

As this Letter grows very long, I shall add no more on Indian Affairs, but that, as

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I see from Sir William Johnson's Account, that several European goods must be provided here, to fit them out when they go to War, and that must be repeated every time they go out; That there would be a very great saving in sending those Goods from London, in place of leaving him to pick them up here, at the exorbitant Prices the Merchants Sell them at; for Sir William assures me, and so far as I have had occasion to know in my own dealings, I find it true, that there is a difference from one hundred and fifty, to two hundred Per cent, in the Price of European Goods in London and here; therefore I have enclosed a List of Goods fit for Indians, which I got from Sir William Johnson.

I am in hopes, that before this, the Plan I in general laid before You, for changing the War in this Country, from a defensive one (which the extent of your Frontiers, and the Situation of the Enemy, renders impossible to maintain with=out great Expenses and very great losses,) into an Offensive one, by attacking Quebeck by the River St. Laurence; has been under Consideration; if that measure be approved of, there will be several things necessary, to make the Measure effectual.

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In the first place, you will be so good as to consider the Troops here, and that in effect we have lost two Battalions of them; I ought rather to have said, that there are two Bat=talions, which are reckoned a part of the Force here, amounting to two thousand Men, that never were Soldiers, and are now together not three hundred; that a great part of the other Troops are still to raise, and will require most of the Recruits this Country can furnish in one Year, to compleat them.

The next Consideration will be, a Fleet sufficient to protect those Troops in the Trans=ports, for without that, they would probably never arrive at Quebeck; and if they did, and Succeed=ed in the Siege, they might be blockt up there without a possibility of returning. And if that Fleet is not ready at Halifax early, to proceed, the opportunity probably will be lost, and all this Country thrown open to the Ravages of the Enemy: What I call early is the first of May, in order to set out the Moment the River St Laurence is free from Ice.

From all I can learn, from the People who have lived in Canada, altho' it is some Years, June, before the Ice is all gone off, it

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often happens, that there is little Ice in it, and this Year, Mons. Montcalm Landed at Quebeck on the 16th of June. If we are to go, we ought to be there the moment the Ice will permit, other-wise the Lakes will be open, and whenever that happens, the Enemy will be at Liberty to pour in their Force into this Country, when we are gone from it; And I will venture to Assure You, that whenever it appears, what we are to do from our Motions, the Enemy will be informed of it from this Country.

I hope, with this Fleet there will be four bomb Ketches, as they will be very necessary in the Siege; the Town lying part on the side of the River, and part above the Cliff, on the last of which, the Attack by the Land Forces must be begun: but of this, Mr. Mc Kellar, if he is arrived, can much better inform You.

There is one thing more I must men-tion, which is Artillery; here we have no brass Guns larger than 12 pounders, and of them but ten, which are to small for Battering the Walls there, so that I hope you will send us 24 Pounders for that purpose, for altho' we can have Iron one's here, they are liable to so many objections, that I hope you will not trust to them;

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in the first place, the Ground is extremely Steep, they must be drawn up in order to put them on the Batteries, and they are so heavy, that it is extremely difficult in that City to get them up, and must protract the Siege very much if we are able to conquer that difficulty; in the next place, they will not bear any degree of Quick Fires with=out bursting, which must protract the Siege like=wise, and make the Gunners very shy in working them: And a few 13. Inch brass Mortars will be absolutely necessary with their Shells.

As to transports I am assured, I can have enough of them here at the different Ports, but that they will be small; I myself am not clear in that Point; but the moment I have directions, and I find it time to let my Project take Air, I will have every thing in readiness, to secure every thing that can serve my purpose.

I have named no number of Men, of Ships or Artillery, as His Royal Highness the Duke is so much a better Judge of those things than I am; but if you cannot at present, afford what will be sufficient, the attempt will fail; and whilst we are returning, this whole Country will be open to the Attacks of the Enemy for without Succeeding at Quebeck; which will probably be Succeeded by

Ticonderoga & Crown Point falling into our hands, there is no way of returning here, but by Sea, down the River again.

To me, this seems the most likely way, not only of carrying on the War with Success, but at once, of putting the Northern Colonies into the quiet Possession of their Country, and enabling them, to push on and encrease their Settlements; and will likewise put you into possession, of the whole Northern furr Trade, of which you never had much, and now in effect have none; for by the loss of the Oswego, You can have no more deal=ings with the Western Indians; and the Furr Trade of the Six Nations, is not worth mentioning.

It will likewise leave your hands loose, to Settle all the Affairs to the Southward, where the Enemy have very wide Possessions at present, but so Scattered, that it will be very difficult for them to support them.

This Letter was begun at Albany, but will be finished at New York, where I now am; And where I found the Magistrates had Quarter=ed the Private Men of the Battalion, in the Bar=racks they have and Blockhouses, which hold about four hundred, but had determined, to give no Quarters on the Town: by which means, no

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preparation was made, for quartering either the Of=
=ficers, or the recruits as they came in for com=
=pleating the Battalion, or for recruiting parties as they pass through, or indeed, for any Troops the Service may oblige me to March thro' this Town.

As I find this to be the disposition of the People all over the Continent, of not granting Quarters; and as all the other Colonies and Towns, are waiting to see, how that affair would be settled here, before they determine finaly what they will do in it; I found myself under an absolute necessity, of asserting the right to Quar=
=ters; and after talking it over with Sir Charles Hardy, the Governor, I sent for the Mayor, who himself seemed well disposed, but could not per=
=suade them to agree; I Acquainted him with the right we had to Quarters, and the custom of all Countries in time of War, and the absolute necessity I was under, of having them either from him, or of Quartering them by my own Authority, and likewise put him in mind, of that Point being insisted on, in almost every Letter, writ by the Secretaries of State since the Year 1754, to the Governors in this Country; And now, after many delays, I have got that

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Point fixed here, on the propper Footing.

I imagine, I shall have no further dif=ficulty on this Subject, but at Philadelphia, where I do not find things go right; but that, I think Mr. Webb, who goes there directly to Com=mand will be able to Settle, now that the Point is fixed here.

Just before I left Albany, there arrived three Commissioners from the Massachusets Bay, in the first place to lay before me a Copy of the Accounts of the Expences they had been at this last Campaign, and to persuade me to Pay them the Amount, to enable them to clear the Men, which they never do till the Cam=paign is over; And in the next, to know what Number of Men I would desire to have from them, for the next Campaign; and what use I proposed to make of those Men.

As to the first, I told them, that it was an Affair of too great Consequence for me to take on myself; both as the Account of their raising them, was not arrived at London before I left it, altho' that resolution had passed the Assembly, the Council, and had the Governors assent, three Months before I came away, so I had no Instructions about it: in the next place

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I looked on it as a Parliamentary Affair.

But that as I knew the many Military Services the Province of Massachusetts had done, I should Acquaint the Kings Ministers with their demand, and do them all the Service in my Power, in obtaining it; but advised them, making their Application to the Ministers, and not to me.

And I then desired to know, on what they founded their Claim; as I had been in=formed, that they had assurances from Mr. Shirley, that they should be reimbursed their whole Expence; and this I was assured of, at the Meeting I had with the General & Field Officers of the Provincials, in order to settle the Point of Command.

This the Commissioners were unwilling to own; but in the course of the Conversation, it appeared, they meant to lay the whole weight on your Letter of March , wherein you Ac=quaint them, The King had provided Provisions for the Men they should raise.

I, as a Friend, advised them not to lay to great a Stress on that Letter; as their raising the Troops, was done long before they received it, which did not arrive at New York, till the 7th of June, and was from thence sent

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to Albany, to Mr Shirley, & transmitted by him, to them; that in it, there were many things re=quired from them, which they had in no Shape complied with; therefore I advised, their resting on their readiness on all former oc-casions, to give their Assistance; that at this time, no orders being arrived for the Operations of the Campaign, they had voluntarily raised those Men for the support of the common cause; in hopes, from the Experience they had of His Majesty's Goodness to them, on so many former occasions, that he would now enable them to bear the Expence of it.

I further told them, that in order to have Success in their Application, it was necessary to consider, what might be said or Suggested against their Claim, when it came to England, in order to be enabled to prevent those Suggestions from creating delays, which in their Case would be dangerous; on which, I told them what occurr'd to me: first, their laying those Troops under restrictions, such as no Troops, raised by them before, ever were; that those restrictions seem=ed calculated to serve a particular purpose, & not to promote the common Cause; that they had likewise given an unknown License among

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them, for which there is no Precedent, of every Man being at Liberty, to hire another Man, to go on the Expedition in his Place, without any restric=tion; from whence, their Troops were filled with great numbers of People, totaly unfit for Service, as they themselves acknowledged.

That, in place of acknowledging the King's right, of appointing Generals to Command His Troops raised by the Province, that Point had been very long disputed, and great encouragement given to carry it on, to the delay and very great Prejudice of the Service. That when Oswego was taken by the Enemy, almost without resistance; and the French from Canada, were marching the whole Force of that Country to Ticonderoga, in the Neighbourhood of the Forts and the Provincial Troops, where it was not in my Power at that time, to collect such a Number of Troops, of any denomination, as to give any certain hope of being able to Stop their Progress.

That, on that occasion, I had applied to their Government for immediate Aid; That altho' their Assembly was then sitting, they had de=layd laying my Letter before them, till they should Summons all the other Members from the most distant Places of the Province; That after a

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very long delay, in this critical Situation, they voted an Aid of one thousand Men, for the support of the Provincial Troops at Lake George, under a restriction, that they should not March, till they had Information from Mr. Winslow or me, that the Enemy were on their March to Attack the Provincial Troops; That it must appear clear to every one, that this Aid, so long delayed to be Granted, never was intended to take Effect, as the demand of it, was to be sent upwards of two hundred Miles, then the Troops were to be Assembled, and after that, to March that two hundred Miles, to support Troops, that lay within Twenty four Miles of the advanced Posts of the Enemy, then in Motion to Attack them.

Mr. Winslow having been informed, from his Scouting parties, some time after, that the Enemy were advancing, brought this affair still further to light; for on the receipt of that Intelligence, I made the demand for those Troops to March, and this I did on this Principle, that altho' I knew they could not get to Lake George in time to be of use in defending that Post, I should by this means have them in readiness, to assist in covering the Country, if our Posts

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were forced, either at Lake George or Fort Edward.

When my Letters arrived, Mr. Shirley was gone, and they were delivered to the Lieutenant Gov:=ernor, who not only, Instantly gave orders for the March of the Troops, but endeavour'd to get the Assembly to give further Aid; of which he Acquainted me.

But in a very little time after, I re:=ceived a Letter, to Acquaint me, that the As:=sembly had refused any further Aid, and to his very great disappointment, he had just re:=ceived a Letter from that part of the Country where the thousand Men were ordered to be raised, giving him an Account, that the Men had been Assembled, but that there had been no Officers appointed to Command them, on which they had dispersed and gone home again; And assuring me, that this was no Neglect of his, as Mr. Shirley had not given him any Information, of the Situation of the Troops raised by the Province, or of Affairs between the Kings Servants and him.

I further Acquainted them, that on my first Application for Aid; I had the warmest Letters from all the other Provinces, Shewing their duty to the King, and their Sense of the danger the Provinces were in; and their readiness to give all

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the Assistance in their Power; and Acquainting me they had sent to Boston, to concert measures for giving it in the most effectual manner.

That I had no Letters from the Govern:=ors, for a very considerable time after that; from some of them, when they came, I had an account of very inconsiderable Aids granted; and others acquainted me, that their Messengers had been detained at Boston three weeks, and then sent back, without any answer of any kind.

That as those things were all known by the Kings Ministers, I thought it material for them, to clear up how they had happen:=ed; because till they did, they would appear to be the Acts of the Province, and might materially affect the Success of their Plan; if they were not the Acts of the Province, but took their rise from particular People, it was a mat:=ter propper for their consideration, whether they would take them on themselves, or place them to the propper Account; in which I should give them no advice.

As to the number of Men I should ask of them for the next Campaign, and the pur:=poses I should employ them in; I told them, I had long ago sent home an Account, of

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what appear'd to me propper for the Opperation of the next Campaign, on which I hoped soon to receive the King's Commands, but that even when I had, I hoped they would not expect I should divulge it till I saw it propper; but that in general, it was my opinion, with so very extended a Frontier, a defensive War could not be carried on, that therefore I hoped, they would approve an Offensive one. On which they told me, that there was a Party formed in their Assembly, who had declared their Opinion, against raising any Men for the general defense of the Colonies, but that each of the New England Governments, should defend their own Frontiers, and Act no further; but they thought, that would be overruled. I told them, that measure seemed to me very ex=traordinary, and if they enter'd into that, I imagined it would not be worth while, to make any Application for reimbursing their Expences. The three Commissioners, were Major General Pepperel, whom I did not see, as he would not venture to come into Albany, for fear of the small Pox; and as I was lame at that time, I could not go to him, but sent Major General Abercromby and Mr. Webb to him: the others were Mr. Wells & Hutchinson, to whom I shewed great Civilities, with which they seemed

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to be extremely pleased, and we are to meet again at Boston, in the beginning of January, from where I shall probably have an opportunity, of Acquainting you with what passes at that Meeting.

Since I mentioned Mr. Livingston's Accounts from Albany, I have had a Second Application from him, and his Partner Mr. Morris, in which they have acknowledged, that altho' no names are inserted in Major General Shirley's Commission this year, to them, to provide Provisions &ca &ca for the Army, that Mr. Alexander, the Generals Secretary, and Mr. Irwin, his Son in Law, are equally concerned with them, in the Profits arising from it; the first as Partner with Mr. Livingston, the other as Partner with Mr. Morris; this they acknowledged to me, before several People: As Mr. Alexander is at London, he may be able to clear up several things in that Account I do not understand.

There is another Alteration, from what I writ above, which I must mention here, which is, on an Application from Sir Charles Hardy I have Marched down three Companies of the New York Regiment, to Esopus, to Protect that Country from some Attacks of the Indians, who have lately killed two Men there, which was occasioned by a most horrid outrage committed

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there last Spring. the case was, there were a Parcel of Indians lived among them from the first Settlements of that part of the Country, who were quite harmless and hurt none of them; but a parcel of People in that Country, last Spring, without any Authority, to the number of Seventy, went to their wigwam where they lived, and put all they found to death, being one Man and about Twenty Women and Children; the other Men belonging to them were from home, and are now resenting that barbarous Murder.

I had the honor of a Letter from Lord Barington, Secretary at War, which I received about a week ago, by a Ship from London, Acquainting me, that His Majesty had ordered Major General O Farels Regiment to Nova Scotia, and the twenty four Additional Companies from Ireland, to compleat the Regiments there to the present Establishment, and that those Men are likewise under my Command.

As I have no particular directions about them, and as I do not know, either the Numbers Major General O Farels Regiment consist of at present, or are to be of on this Establishment, and as the numbers of the three Regiments now in Nova Scotia are greatly Changed, as you will see

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by the returns of the 1st of October, which are the last regular returns come to my hands, that they wanted but four hundred Men of being compleat; And as I have an Account, of above one hundred Men having joined Mr. Hobson's Regiment, since that return, and a great many Recruits having joined the other Regiments;

I propose, in order to prevent such a number of Men being lost to the Service, in this Country, where Recruits come in very Slowly at present, to send an Officer to Halifax, to see those Men fairly drafted, and the four Regiments compleated, and to transfer the remainder, to the Royal American Regiment, to assist in compleating them.

And as Sir Charles Hardy Acquaints me, that it is his Opinion, that the Men of War who convoy them, will hardly venture into Halifax, at this Season of the Year, with Transports, but will probably go to Virginia; for which reason, I shall send Orders there to the Commanding Officer, to march them along the Coast, where I shall make the division, making full allowance for the bad Men the Nova Scotia Regiment may have, and shall March on, as the Season will permit, those destined for Nova Scotia,

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to Boston, from whence they can easily be sent thither.

Although I am ashamed of the length this Letter is swelled to already, I must mention the method, in which I find the french Prison=ers, taken by the Privateers are managed all over the Colonies, which to me seems different, from the maxims by which you manage them in England.

In order to save the Expence of main-taining them in Goal, they distribute as many of them in the Country, as the Farmer will take to carry on the Labour; others they put on board their Privateers, (in which Service alone, I am informed, they have from New York about three thousand Men, which distresses their Trade, for want of hands to Navigate their Ships) those are pretty Safe; but they put numbers on board every trading Vessel, as many as the Master thinks himself safe with; As those Trad=ing Vessels go to many parts of Europe, and the West Indies hardly any of the Men re=turn here, but are all carried back, either to Franse or their Islands.

To the Northward, I see they Treat & Ex=change Prisoners; Although those are Prisoners taken

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at Sea, and in no ways under my Charge, yet I thought it incumbent on me, to inform you, what I knew and observed about them.

I am in hopes, by the next Packet, to have Orders in relation to the Indian Affairs, which will shew me, whether I have understood the Kings Intention on that Subject, of putting all the management of, and Negotiating with them entirely, into the hands of his two Agents for Indian Affairs, under the Inspection of the Commander in Chief for the time being, without permitting, either the Colonies, as such, or com:-munities, in them, from Negotiating with them, who Act so contradictory to one another, as I shewed you in a former Letter, in the case of the People of Philadelphia, where by the same Person at the same time, the Colony asks the Assistance of the Six Nations, and desires them to take up the Hatchet, and the same Person, with the next breath begs of them, from the Quakers of the same Colony, not to take up the Hatchet, as they were against spilling of Blood: I likewise sent you a Copy of my Letter, to the Governors of the different Provinces, on Indian Affairs, to which I have received no Answer from any of them: I shall be very glad to know,

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how far that is approved, or disapproved of, that I may hereafter, conduct myself accordingly; but I will venture to assure you, that without you fix it in one Channel, the Plans will vary, and of course the Conduct; So that they must Clash every moment.

I have had many Meetings with Sir William Johnson, about your Indian Affairs, and he insists on having Mr. Croghan to assist him, for whom he proposes a Sallary of Two hundred a Year: the field is wide he has to Manage, and the Slavery of it beyond Imagination, and the Consumption they make of Provisions, very great; but at present I do not see a Remedy for that; and I must say, I think he wants Assistance. Mr. Croghan is at present in Pensilvania, endeavour=ing to find out a Plan I have heard of, in which several People had entered into an Agreement, to go to Join the Enemy, and some of them I hear, were taken on the Road thither, and after=wards dismissed; If I can make any thing of this, it may lead Us to the Author of the Letters, which I shall search to the bottom, as soon as I get to Philadelphia: Croghan will acquaint Mr. Webb with what he can pick up, till I arrive, and will give no Suspicion of what he is about.

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I perceive, in acquainting you with what past with the Commissioners of Boston, I forgot to recommend their Case to You, which I promised to do, and now do most earnestly; and if things go well, when I am at Boston, shall beg leave to report it from thence. I have the honor to be, with the greatest Respect,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
Loudoun

New York December 26th
The Right Honble: Henry Fox.

Endorsed Albany Nov: 22d 1756 / & New York Decr. 26th / Earl of Loudoun. / R Feby 11th

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Schedule of the Papers enclosed and Referrd to in His Lordships Letters to the Right Honble Henry Fox Esqr dated at Albany the 22d November 1756. Vizt

Examination of Laverdure Private in the Granadeers of the Regiment, de Languedoc dated Fort Edward October 31st 1756.

Copy of a Letter from His Lordship to Sir Charles Hardy Albany November 21st 1756.

Idem, From Lieutenant Colonel Little Hales to His Lordship. Quebec September 30th 1756.

Idem, from Major Lewis with his Observations on the disposition of the Cherokees to Lieut Governor Dinwiddie Halifax Smiths Creek October 11th 1756.

List of Goods to be sent from London for the Northern Indians

Copy of a Letter from Lieut Govr Phips to His Lordship Boston October the 8th 1756

Idem, from Lieut Parker to Colo Williams of Hatfield. Charles Town in New Hamshire Octr 3d 1756. enclosed in Governor Phips Letter of the 8th

Idem, from Lieut Govr Phips to his Lordship Boston October 13th 1756.

Idem, from .. ditto .. to ditto of the 19th of October

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Idem from Governor Wentworth to ditto Ports=mouth October 16th 1756.

Idem from Governor Fitch to ditto Newhaven October 18th 1756.

Idem from Governor Hopkins to ditto Providence November 13th 1756.

Copy of the last Paragraph of a Letter from a Merchant at Quebec to his Correspondent at Cape Francoise. August 20th 1756. taken from on board the Prize Snow, Springtime ... Mr Tradin Master; an Account of the Siege of Oswego enclosed.—

Copy of a Letter dated at Montreal August 18th 1756. being an Account of the taking of Oswego enclosed in a Letter of the 20th of Au=gust from Mr. Pierre Meynaidie Junr. to Mr. Chinon at Capt. Francois

Copy of the Information of Captain John Vickers of the 50th Regiment January 4th 1757—

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Endorsed Schedule of the Papers / Enclosed & Referrd to in / His Lordships Letter to The / Right Honble Henry Fox Esqr / dated at Albany / 22d November 1756.

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Fort Edward October 31st 1756.—

Saverdeire, Private in the Granadeers of the Regiment de Languedoc has been eighteen months in this Country, was all last year at Crown Point and the latter Season at Carrillon (Tienderoga) says, there are three Battal.s at Car=rillon, 2 Encamped at half a League from thence, and 1 gone with Mr. Montcalm; The names of those Battalions are, La Reine, Rous=sillon, Beard, La Sarre, Languedoc, & Guienne; That the two Battalions of Dartois & Bourgignon are at Louisbourg; That his Battalion consists of 500 Men, and is Compleat, as are the Others, except La Reine and another, who each of them want Four Companys, that were taken at Sea; That their Companys consist in 40 Men, and that there are thirteen Companys to a Regiment; that he reckons they were Strong=est at the begining of September, when they might be about 5000, two or three hundred Men. That they had not above 800 Canadians, not having pressed any this Year; that they had likewise 1500, of the Marines with them, but never above 3 or 400 Indians; that many of the Indians came from the Ohio; That there are about 200 Indians, Part of the Ohio,

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and Part of other Nations, to remain at Tienderoga all Winter, it being too late in the Season for them to Return home.– The Fort is a Square, built and Covered with Wood, and Situated upon a Rock; that the Powder Magazine, is on the other side of the Fort towards the River, that the Barracks are of Wood and can Contain 500 Men, that he hears the Garrison is to Consist of a Picquet from every Battalion, 200 Marines, and some Canadians, in all about 600 Men, be=sides 200 Indians; That Mr. Dessillian, a Capt. in the marines, and who has for some years past Commanded at the Point, is to have the Command of the Garrison during the Winter, That there are two 18, fifteen 12, and nine 8 Pounders, besides 10 Swivels; That there are nei=ther Mortars, nor Bombs in the Fort, but that all the guns are mounted; That there are no Outworks, but that there is a large Magazine with=out the Fort; That they are endeavouring to make a Ditch round the Fort, but by reason of its being Rock, they have gone but a little way in it; That they have no Well, but have made a Cistern within the Fort.– That the Rock is of a blew Lime stone, that the Fort Stands about 260, Paces from the Rivers; That there is a Ford about

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half a League abov. the Fort; That there are two Cassmates, bomb Proof, able to contain 100 Men each; That all summer the Provisions were bad, and Occasioned great Sickness, (Scurvy and Fevers) but that now they are much better, some Provisions having arrived from France, as likewise some from the Country; That few of the Regulars, but many of the Canadians died during the Summer: _ That they had no kind of Fresh Provisions, and were obliged to Feed their Sick on Salt meat.

That he has not heard much talk about Crown Point, but that he beleives the Garrison will not be near so Strong as that at Carrillon; that last winter there were not above 60 Men there; but that when he was last there, which was about two Months since, he looked into the Barracks, and supposes they may hold 200 Men _ That last year they made two wooden Outworks, but that Mr. Montcalm ordered them to be burnt; that there are no Outworks, but some Blockhouses to Lodge People in; but of no manner of Defence; that there are about 20 Cannon there; 14 or 15 of them, eight Pounders & the Remainder Swivels; that there are no Cohorns, but some wooden ones to Fling hand

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Granades: that the Wall of the Fort is of Stone, about 7 or 8 Feet thick; That there is no Ditch round it.

That their first Advanced Post, was opposite to the Falls, about half a League above Carillon; and consisted of about 60 Men, guard=ing a Saw Mill, that they had no other Forti=fycation, More than an abbattie.

That their next Post, was about a league higher, on the East side of the River Consist=ing of 600 Canadians, and called the Carrying Place, Grand Guard; or Camp Commanded by Mr. Laborne, where they likewise had an abbattie.

That they had an other advanced Post, half a league higher, on the West side of the River; Consisting of 100 Canadians and 50 Regulars, where they had likewise an Abbattie.

This last Post, they have since burnt and abandoned.

That two of the Battalions, are to march on the 1st and 9th and the others (ex=cept the Garrison) on 10th & 11th of next Month, when their Advanced Posts, are to withdraw Like=wise.

That Mons. Montcalm, with the Regiment La Sarre, went off, on the 25th Instant, himself, for

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Quebeck and the Battalion for the trois Rivieres; and that Mor. Sevy goes of on the 11th. La Reine & Guienne, to be Quartered at Queb. Roussillon a' la Point au Tremble, three leagues below Montreal.

* the Marines either to Quebeck or Montreal, they not doing duty with the Troops.

* Beard to Montreal, and Languedoc to Longueville & Bousserville opposite to Montreal. —

That The name of the Engineer at Carillon is Soubiniere.

That upon Mor. Montcalm's arrival at Carillon from Oswego, he intended to go and attack Fort William Henry, but first consulted with some of the Chief Officers of the Canadians, who dis=suaded him from it, by reason of the Season's being too far advanced; That he intended to have embark'd his Artillery on board Batteaus, and to March his Men by Land on the West side of the River; That the Road from Carillon to the furthest of their Advanced Posts, is for the first half League by water, and the Remain=ing League and a half thro' a Small Path thro. a Plain; that he does not know the re=mainder of the Road, but that he heard it was very bad; That at Carillon they had about 100 Flatt Bottom'd boats; that these boats can carry about 4400, Weight, and their Compliment of Men

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are 25; but when loaded with Artillery carry only 1 Gun & about 12 Men; That he beleives Mr. Colum: Giere Commanded the Party that took Hodges: and that they were about 2 or 300.–

That they do not expect that any thing will be done this Winter; but that if Mr. Mont: =calm does not Change his mind, they will come and attack Fort William Henry in the Spring; that La Sarre, Guienne, & Beard were at the Siege of Oswego, but that he does not know what the other Troops there were, except that the whole of their numbers might amount to about 3500 Men.–

That the Garrison abandoned the first Fort, after the first two Shott, and that when they fired on the Old Fort, the Walls fell to peices, and they Surrendered immediately; That they have no General Officers but Mr. Montcalm & Mr. Levy & only one Colonel who Commands the Six Bat: =talions, whose name he does not know.–

That at Cadaraqui, there are about 100 of the Regulars, besides some of the Marines & Others, but does not know the number of them.–

That at Niagara there were Likewise 100 Regulars and some Marines and Canadians.–

That they expect a great number of Troops by next Spring.–

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That there were three hundred of the Ma=rines went from Carillon a month ago, to Gar=rison Quebec.–

That they had heard nothing of the arrival of any Troops from England 'till lately when they took a Prisoner who told them, that there were about 4000 arrived; That when they expected us to come and attack them, they imagined we would land about 3 Leagues on this side Carillon or the West, upon which they laid themselves in Ambuscade; That there is no Attacking of Carillon, but on one Side, and that is of this, which being all Rock, there is no possibility of Making Intrenchments.

That the Troops have half a pound of Pork, and two Pounds of Bread a day Per man; That the Men have 5½ Sols, per day, and the Granadeers 6½ Sols; and those that are employ=ed in the Works 20 Sols. The Miners and Car=penters 30 Sols.–

That the Ice is always on the Lake Cham=plain till the begining of May, and that there is no Road by Land.–

Endorsed. Examination of Laverdure / Private in the Granadeers of the / Regiment De Languedoc / Fort Edward October 31st. 1756. / in the E. of Loudouns Letter / of Novr. 22d. 1756 /

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Copy

Albany November 21st 1756.–

Dear Sir,

When I writ you by the Express I cou'd not detain him so long, as fully to State the Points relative to the Command of the Troops in the different Provinces, which would be very easi=ly done, if I were to have no Body to deal with in that way but You; as there could never be a defference between us: but when we Con=sider, that in whatever manner it is Settled with You; that must be the Rule in every other Province, it requires a more Serious Con=sideration

In order to State this Case, it will be necessary to look back to the begining of things in this Country.–

The first Settlers in General were Adventurers to whom the then Goverment gave Such Charters on Pattents as they thought proper to ask; from whence has arose that great Va=riety of different Goverments on this Continent; when they grew more Considerable, the Goverment appointed Governors to them with Powers Civil and Military, expecting they should support them=selves against the Indians then their only

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Enemies; but as the Colonies begun to flourish our Neighbours grew Jealous of them which obliged the Goverment at home to send Fleets to protect them.—

In process of time our Neighbours began to make encroachments and soon after to raise Regular Troops, and at last to transport Troops from France, to Support and Push on those Encroachments Still further.

On this the Goverment, found themselves under the necessity of sending Regular Troops from home with a General Officer to Command them, and all Military Affairs in this Country; on which Occasion the King gave a Commission in the same form with those he gives to the Generals he appoints to Command Armies in Europe; not conceiving that the Governors would interfere in that Point; and as that General lived but a short time, and the King was absent when the Account of his death arrived, the Regency sent out immediately a Commission in the same form to a General on the Spot to take the Command as his Predecessor had it.—

When the King returned and they found from the Representations of both Generals, that Disputes had arose with the Governors about

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the Command and the difficulties of carrying on the Service, whilst those Disputes Subsisted; to Support which the Governors argued, that by Vir=tue of their Comissions under the great Seal they were Captain Generals and Commanders in Chief, in their own Provinces, and that no Com=mission could superceed them, except it was likewise under the great Seal.–

The Goverment disapproving of this man=ner of Proceeding in the Governors, and seeing that whilst Governors pretended to the Command of the Troops that happened to be at that time in their Goverm^t., the greatest Confusion might arise, and the Troops be Rendered Almost totally use=less, and as the present Situation of things will afford a Case, where it might easily happen, if the Governors had the Command of the Troops in their Province, I shall beg leave to State it as it throws light into the Case.

During this Winter the Troops are pro=pos'd to be quarter'd (I shall begin at the South) in Maryland, Pensilvania, the Jerseys, New York and in New England; and three Regiments in Nova Scotia, where the Governor as an Officer is directly under the Generals Command, but as a Governor Acts by a Pattent under the Great Seal.

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It is not unnatural to Suppose, that in the present Situation, where the Enemy are mak=ing Attacks on almost every Colony, that each Governor should form a Plan for the next Cam=paign that appears to him the Most Advantageous for his own Colony; each of the Governors differ from one another in their Plan, and the General should have Still a different Plan, either of his own forming, or by directions from His Master, (this State of things the more readily Occurred to me, from having had different Plans sent me from most of the Colonies) from where the Con=sequences that must arise from the Governors having the Command of the Troops in their Province must naturally Occur to You.

The King foreseeing this; in order to put a total end to this dispute, and the inconveniencies arising from it to the Service, when he thought proper to make a New Appointment of General Of=ficers to Command in this Country, not only gave them a Commission in the usual Form, but like=wise gave a Commission under the great Seal, in which he not only gives him the Command of all Troops employed, and to be employed in this Country, but in this Commission he has thought it proper to carry this Point so far as to provide in

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case the General he has appointed should happen to die, either by any Natural or Accidental Cause, he has in the Commission nominated Successors to him in the Natural Rotation of the Army, And so to Continue till His Majesty's Pleasure was known so that whatever number of the people at the head of the Army were to die, the Eldest Officer here, would enjoy the Command of the Troops, by that Commission under the Great Seal, with the same power, the Present Possessor has it, so that in no Shape it can devolve to any of the Governors except they should happen to be Officers in the Army and on the Staff.

I have here laid a Series of Facts before You from whence it appears, that if the Several Governors are to have any Command of the Troops whilst within their Respective Provinces, the Service for which they are sent might and Naturally would be disappointed from the Various Opinions and Interests of the Governors, and their Colonies.

And it likewise appears that His Majesty being Sensible of the Inconvenience that must Arise, from such an unprecedented Command, where each Governor Commands, the whole or any part of the Troops, that happens to be within the Limits of that Goverment, and may

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employ them in any part of it, on what Service he thinks Proper, and prevent their being drawn from thence, by any other Authority on this Con=tinent, whatever the Emergency may be, for if the Governor Commands the Troops in any part of His Goverment, the same Right must extend to every part of that Goverment; Therefore You see His Majesty has not only thought proper to appoint General Officers to Command the Troops, by His Commission under the Great Seal, in order to Continue the Command in the Military Men of the Army whatever Casualties may happen to those at present in the Command, and in all Events totally to prevent the Governors from having any Interfering in the Command of the Troops to whatever Rank in the Army the Com=mand may descend. —

Those things Show what Care His Ma=jesty has taken to direct the Civil Power of all Command over the Troops in this Country, whilst he shall think Proper to appoint General Officers to Continue here to Command them, and at the same time show You, how impossible it is for those in that Command to depart from His Majestys orders, which he has taken so much Care to Establish.

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The next Point to mention is Punctilio's, if I may use the Expression, on this Occasion, such as Giving the Parole to and Receiving Re=port from the Troops within their Province, These are Ensigns of Command, and if the Right of Command should ever again be disputed might be brought as Arguments of Concession made in that Point, which the General that Commands can=not justify himself from giving way in, either from his Commission or Directions; therefore I cou'd wish they never came to be mentioned at All, as he has it not in his power to agree to, and would be sorry to be forced to Refuse; As to the Military Honours to be paid by the Troops; I imagine the proper way of Settling them should be Accord=ing to the Rank the King has given to the different Persons in Councils of War; in which Case, it will Stand thus, the Person who now Commands has a Right to Three Roughs of the Drum, Rested Arms, and the Officers to Salute

Governors and Commanders in Chief, in their Own Provinces the same with two Roughs of the Drum

Out of their Provinces the same but the Officers not to Salute.

I am sorry to find You meet with so

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much Trouble from your people in Providing for the Quartering of the Troops; and that so far as I am informed, the Method they propose will not answer their purpose in any point from two reasons first they make difficulty in find=ing Quarters for a Battalion, which now will probably Consist of Little more than 400 Men, whereas I hope very soon to raise that Bat=talion to 1000 Men, and if I do not the Ser=vice will go on very Ill next Year, for this they seem not to have the least Consideration, nor do I find that they have ever thought of quartering the Officers, who have an Absolute Right to their Quarters likewise.—

Those things give me great uneasiness, as they seem to lead to Oblige me to do things I would Gladly avoid by every Justifiable means, and I beleive you will agree with me, were I to Acquaint the Goverm^t. that the people of New York did not Chuse to give Quarters, to the Bat=talion, I had Acquainted them I thought Neces=sary for the Service should be there (and which I am sure they will agree is Absolutely Necessary for the Service) and that for that reason I had been forced to remove them to some other Quarters, and every other Quarters has just the same Right

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to refuse Receiving them, if they have any: I beleive you Cannot Doubt that the Answer would be, that the Town of New York were most undutifull Subjects, and that I was a most im=proper man to be entrusted with the Command of Troops in this Country.—

I wish those Gentlemen who dispute the Point of Quarters, would Consider that Altho' in time of Peace, Quartering of Troops is Confined to publick houses, yet that in time of War the practice has Always been in every Country with=out Exception, that no house has been excempted from Quartering the Troops the General thought proper to have in any place for Carrying on the Service; and from this Rule the People of the first Fashion in England have not been excempted, and the Necessity has always justi=fied the Proceeding in every disinterested Mans Mind For I do not know any Instance of its ever having been Complained of, tho' I have seen it often Practised; and I am sure if ever any Juncture, Justified Quarter=ing in any place, the present will justi=fie me for Quartering a Battalion in New York; Nay if I had asked Quarters for two Battalions in the present Situation of things I

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should have been fully justified; but I have Chose to do every thing with all the Moderation the Carrying on the Service will permit.

I am &ca. –

To Sir Charles Hardy.–

Endorsed Copy–/ Of a Letter from the Earl of/ Loudoun to Sir Charles Hardy./ Albany Novemr. 21st. 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Novr. 22d. 1756. /2

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Quebeck Sepr. 30th 1756.

My Lord,

I did myself the Honour to acquaint Your Lordship (by my Letter from Montreal dated 30th of August) that the Garrison of Oswego, was invested the 11th by the Troops of his most Christian Majesty, that on the 14th being cannonaded Flank, and Rear, and our Works, exposed throughout, & likewise surrounded in Front, by a considerable Body of the Enemy, We beat the Chamade; and sent two Officers with a Flag of Truce, to the Marquis of Montcalm Commander in Chief, of His Most Christian Majesty's Troops, who immediately sent us back Proposals (by his Aid de Camp) whereupon Articles of Capitulation were unanimously agreed upon in a Council of War, and complied with; Copies of which I then enclosed in the said Letter to Your Lordship.

Part of the Troops were sent to this place, soon after our Arrival at Montreal, & the King's Entendant, pursuant to Instructions received from the Marquis Vaudreuil, Governor General of Canada, has embark'd on Board a Packet Boat for Old England a Number of Officers, Serjeants, Corpls., Drumrs. & private Men of the 50th & 51st. Regiments, agreeable to the enclosed Returns

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to Your Lordship, (in Order to be exchanged by Cartell or other otherwise) amongst which Number I am included.

It has been likewise signified to me, by the Lord Entendant that the Officers & private Men, who lately belonged to his Brittanick Majesty's Ves=sels of War on the Lake Ontario, together with six commissioned Officers some None commission'd Officers, and Private Men, of afore mention'd Regi=ments shou'd speedily imbark on board a Fri=gate for Old France upon the same Terms. There is also embark'd on board this Packet the two Engineers, Commissary of Musters, and Com=missary of the Stores of Oswego.

Two Captains of each Regiment are to re=main to be exchanged here, Vizt. 50th Regiment Cap=tain James Campbell, & Capt Robt. Armstrong. 51 Regimt. Capt. Wm. Paget & Capt Andw. Watkins.— Colo. Schuyler with the provincial Regiment of New Jersey are to remain here till exchanged. I shall add nothing further than the Honour of subscribing myself

My Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient, and most devoted, humble Servant

John Littlehales, Lieut. Colo. to the 50th Regt.

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Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Lieut. Col^o. Littlehales to / the Earl of Loudoun. / Quebec. Septr. 30th 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Novr. 22^d. 1757 / 3

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Halifax, Smiths Creek, Octr 11th 1756.

Hon. ble Sir,

I marched from Chota the fifth Day of September. Notwithstanding the many promises I had from the Chief Men of the Cherokees, to send with me a great Number of Warriours to Virginia, & my staying so long for them, yet was disappointed; there is but seven Men and three Women with me.— Otassity has endeavour'd with all his Might to levy Men to bring in, but the little Carpenter and Many others pre=vented their Coming: I have his promise, that as soon as he can collect a Number sufficient he will march them to Virginia.

Inclosed Your Honour has my Sentiments concerning the Disposition of the Cherokees; a Copy of which I have sent to both Governors of North and South Carolina. My staying so long amongst the Cherokees, so long after the Fort was built, was more to prevent their Striking the English than any Hopes I had of their Marching with me to Virginia

This Morning I had the pleasure of meeting Col.o Washington, who thought it more expedient to send an Express from here to Your Honour than to wait my Arrival in Augusta.

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I am now in a very bad State of Health; I shall wait on Your Honour soon after my Ar:=rival in Augusta, if Health permits.

I had liked to omitted one thing which I think proper to insert. Seven Days after my Departure, I arrived at Capt. Demeree's Camp which is at Keowee, the next Cherokee Town to Charles Town. Next Day three of the Creek Indians ar:=rived with a Message from their Nation to the Cherokees, the Contents of which they wou'd not make known in the Presence of any White Man. Since my Departure from Capt. Demeree, I am informed by one of the Indians, in Company with me, that their Message was for the Cherokees to appoint a Day to cut off all the English in their Nation; that they as well as the Chactaws and Chikesaws wou'd observe the same Time, that not one of the English shou'd escape: that they wou'd then join their Forces, rush upon the In:=habitants, and kill them like a parcel of Fowls: that they might depend, that all the Nations to the Southwest had joined the French, & that they might expect, to be cut off as well as the English, if they did join. The Indian saith, that his Nation refused to join them, but how far he may be credited I leave Your

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Honour to judge, as none of the Cherokees acquaint=ed us with the Message while with them.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient

& very humble Servant

Andrew Lewis.

Majr. Lewis's Observations, as mention'd in the above Letter. —

On my Arrival at Chota, I met with the most kind Usage from old Hop, the Little Car=penter, and all the Indians in general, & ex=pressed themselves to be very willing to comply with the late Treaty held with them by Colo. Byrd and Colo. Randolph; they continued in this friendly Disposition, till I had almost finish=ed the Fort, but when I demanded them to fulfil their promise of sending their Warriors with me to the Assistance of Virginia; they then made Use of all possible equivocating Ar=guments to avoid sending any: The French as well as the Savannahs have a constant Cor=respondence with them, more especially the great Town of Tellico; and I am convinced, there is some Scheme on Foot between them and the French to distress us, and that they are great=er Friends to the French over the Hills than

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to the English.

During my Stay at Chota, there was a Message sent from the Nuntewes to the little Carpenter, and also another from the Savannahs, & also from the French at the Allabamir Fort; ever since these Messages arrived, there has been the greatest Change imaginable, and the Contents of their Messages have been kept a secret to me. Notwithstanding their many promises to acquaint me with every Thing they had or knew, a French=man commonly known by the Name of French John, who has lived some considerable Time amongst the Cherokees, together with a Cherokee Wench, that speaks the Shawana Tongue, were sent eight Days past to the Allabamer Fort, and to the Savan=nahs residing thereabouts, with a Message from the little Carpenter and the principal Men of the upper Towns, to the French and Shawanas there.

The Indians at Tallico expect a French Fort in their Towns, and the Head Men in general approve of the same, & are well satisfyed therewith: and I have the greatest Reason to believe, from many Circumstances, that French John, and the Indian Wench aforesaid are gone on that Errand; The Indians say it wou'd be good to have a French Fort at great Tallico. The little

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Carpenter is the principal Man in all these Schemes. A Nuntewe Fellow, called the great Elk, who has resided among the Cheriokees a long Time, is sent off to his Nation with some of the Chero=kees. Some Northern Indians, who have have resided in this Nation some Time; are soon to be sent to the Northward, I believe to Canada: In short, there are Messages sent, and to be sent, to all Nations of Indians in Alliance with the French: and also to the French Themselves.

On the 2d Instant, the Head Men of all the upper Towns were all assembled in Coun=cil at Chota, and that by Accident I happen'd there they had agreed, to write a Letter to Capt. Demeree to order him to return immediately with all the Troops under his Command: And the little Carpenter said, that as to the two Soldiers of Capt. Demeree's that were there, he wou'd take their Guns and give them to his Young Men to hunt with, and as to their Cloaths, they wou'd soon be wore out, & then their Skins wou'd be tanned, and be of the same Colour as theirs; and that they shou'd live among them as Slaves. Upon being informed of their Design, I spoke to them, and made Use of all the prevailing Argu=ments I cou'd to perswade them to the Contrary.

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Upon which they agreed to have a Meeting in Council next Day; accordingly they Met & sent for me, upon which they agreed to write to Capt. Demeree to come as soon as he possibly cou'd, that they longed to shake Hands with him &ca Accordingly they wrote a kind Letter to him to that Effect. The Day I left Chota, the Heads of the Indians, on taking Leave of me, desired that I might tell the Governor of Virginia, that they had taken up the Hatchet against all Nations that were Enemies to the English. But to speak my Sentiments, I am convinced, that this Compliment from them was only to blind me, as much as possible, from their Designs; and that the Letter wrote to Capt. Demeree, was to no other purpose: for they were much disconcerted, when they found I had some Intelligence of their Intent; and the Letter wrote to Capt. Demeree, was only to put a Gloss on their Knavery, as was also the Compliment passed on the aforesaid.

I have Reason to believe from the Behaviour of the Indians, and from the many Reports of the Traders and Linguisters, that they had a Design to kill me & my Men, or to make prisoners of us: and I must believe, that this Scheme wou'd have been put in Execution, had

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(CO 5: 47)

the first Letter been sent off, to Capt. Wemeree un=discover'd, (to march his Men away &c.a -) I have the promise of some of their Warriours to go to Virginia, but what Number will go with me is un=certain; what goes with me are mostly from the lower Towns, there not being more than seven or eight from the upper Towns.

The Indians report that there is a Number of White People coming up amongst them, and they do not want too many of them about them: My Opinion is that they want only a few Men to live in the Forts, that they may Command them and keep them in Subjection; & if not well used by the English (that is sup=ply'd with Ammunition and other Things at no Cost.) It is therefore my Opinion that there ought to be several hundred Men sent up to strike Terror to them, and force a Compliance & Submission —

Endorsed Copy. / Majr. Lewis's Letter & Observations on the Disposition of the / Cherokees, to Lt. Govr. Dinwiddie / Hallifax, Smith's Creek. Octr. 11th / 1756. — / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Novr. 22d. 1756. / 4

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A Specification of the Quality and Quantity of Goods necessary to be sent from London for the Northern Indian department

20, p^s. of blue narrow Cord Strowds
10, d^o. of Black d^o.
5, d^o. of Aurora, or Crimson d^o.
5, d^o. of common Red d^o.
200, Rolls of different Colours Gartering
200, p^s. Gimps Suiteable to the Strowds
300, Blankets made to sample every Way
300, d^o. Large enough for Women
400, d^o. for men something Larger,
6, p^s. of deep purple Ratteen
6, p^s. of White or uncolour'd d^o.
6, d^o. of Walsh Cottons
200, Mens Ruffled Shirts without Buttons
200, d^o. plain
100, d^o. Smaller size and plain
100, d^o. for little Boys
20, ~~lb~~ of light Colour'd Thread
6, p^s. of Yellow half thicks
4, d^o. of Blue d^o.
30, p^s. of Strip'd Callimincoes, lively Colours
20, p^s. of Callicoes also Lively Colours
20, p^s. embos'd Serges d^o.
10, p^s. of Yard wide Cheeks Red Stripes

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40, ps. of single Ribbands Vizt 10. deep Red, 10. deep blue, 10. deep Green, & 10. do. Yellow,

30, dozn. of Womens Yarn Hose clockt. & difft. colours.

20, do. of Boys do. do.

20, do. of Childrens. do. do.

20, do. Smallest Childrens Hose,

10, do. of Womens Scarlet blue and Green Worsted Hose with Clocks,

100, Castor Hatts laced with a broad cheap Lace

50, do. with a better Lace

2, dozn. of small Jacks or Colours

100, Coats of blue Cloath Red Cuffs &ca. Laced

100, Cheap Green Waste Coats with white Mettl. Buttons

400, Neat Fowling pieces Barrels 4 Feet Long Sub:stantial Stocks to have some distinguishing mark on the Barrel and Lock of each, about 20/ price.

400, do. a better kind distinguish'd as above.

200, do. 3 Feet Barrell for Boys, do. Wilson Maker

100, pr. of middling Pistols with Ramrods

1000, Indian Cutlashes strong & of the Cymiter kind

500, Pipe Hatchets neat & Strong without Handles

50, dozn. of Long Fish Knives with Box Handles and Sharp points

50, do. of Buckhorn Clasp Knives

20, dozn. of Penknives Sorted

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20, doz.n of Womens Siezars,
20, Gro: of Indian Awl Blades,
50, lb of Brass wire Sorted,
50, Brass Gorgets Gilt, with the Kings Arms
150 Hair Cocades,
50, Gro. of the smallest brass dutch Jews Harps
50, doz.n Buckling Combs,
10, M. of Needles Sorted
30, Gro. of Hawks Bells different Sizes
4. do. of Common Razors,
20, doz.n of Looking Glasses at 6/
20, do. of . . . . . . do. . . . at 10/
100, Gro: of Bristol pipes
50, lb of small white Beeds
500, Common Steel Tongs for Striking Fire
4, M.wt of Good Gun powder, half in whole, & half in 1/2 Barrells
6, Tons of Leaden Barrs of 1 1/2 lb. Each
2, M. of Goose Shott.
2, do. of duck Shott
10, M. of Good Flints
500, wt. of Vermillion in Casks well packd
20, lb. of Verdegreace in Lump
100, doz.n of Bullet Molds for the before Mention'd Arms,

Endorsed List of Goods, to be sent/ from London, for the North:=ern Indians / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Nov.r 22d. 1756./5

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Copy

Boston. October 8th. 1756.

My Lord,

I had the Honour to receive Your Lord-ship's Letter of the 30th September, which I laid before the General Court now sitting.

I have taken every Measure in my Power to forward the last Reinforcement of one Thousand Men, to the Assistance of the Troops at Lake George; the Subsistence Money to carry the Men to Albany has been sent up, & Provision been made, to furnish them with Blankets; & I have given Orders for their marching forthwith, and have great Reason to hope, that they will soon join the Army.

I now transmit to Your Lordship, the Copy of a Letter I this Day received by Express, from Col. Williams of Hatfield, which contains the Intelligence communicated by an English Prison-er, who made his Escape from Canada, the Beginning of last Month; I made a Message to the two Houses on this Occasion, recommend-ing a further Augmentation; The Assembly now have the same under Consideration, & if any further Reinforcement shou'd be agreed upon, in Consequence of it, I shall send Your Lordship

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the earliest Advice of it.

The French are continually pouring their Strength into America, for which Reason I am more especially concerned to have Your Lordship furnished with the united Force of these Colonies to oppose them before the Season is to far elapsed to go upon Action; as it may very reasonably be expected the Enemy will be much stronger another Year. I have the Honour to be, with very great Respect,

My Lord, Your Lordship's,
most obedient & most humble Servt.
Spencer Phips.

Rt. Honble Lord Loudoun.

Endorsed Copy. | A Letter from Lt. Govr. Phips | to the Earl of Loudoun. | Boston. October 8th. 1756. | in the E. of Loudoun's Letter | of Novr. 22d. 1756. | 6.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Copy.

Charlestown, N Hampshire, Octr. 3d. 1756.

Colo. Williams,

Sir,

This Day arrived here, a little before sun set, one Enos Bishop, an English Captive from Canada, who was taken from Contoocook upwards of 2 Years agone, he left Canada six and twenty Days ago in Company with two other English Captives, viz. one William Havi who of late belonged to Brookfield, but had 'listed himself in General Shirley's Regiment, & was taken at Oswego; the other was taken from Pensylvania; They left Canada without any Gun or Hatchet or Fireworks & no more than three Loaves of Bread & four Pounds of Pork; so that they suffer'd much for Want of Victuals, so that through Hunger & fatigue, the two Men his Companions were not able to travel, & he was obliged to leave them the last Sabbath Day a little on this side of Cowass, without any sustenance except a few Berries, so that he fears they are perished in the Wilderness, I immediately this Evening sent out six of our Men to look for the Men, & to help them to come in if they are living.

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I interrogated the Man concerning the Af:=fairs at Canada, he tells me "he was at Mon:"-real when the French Army return'd from Os:"=wego, that the French General made his Re:"=turn to the Governour, that he had taken 1800 "Prisoners (but others say there was not so many) "& that he killed six Men & wounded eight in "the Caption of the Fort. He tells me, that the "Prisoners which were taken from thence inform'd "him that it was only the Canadeans that "attacked the first Fort they came at (viz. Fort "Pepperell) who fought three Days with their small "Arms, Colo Mercer who was in another Fort "waved the Colours three Times to the Officer which "was in said Fort, as a Signal for them to "leave the Fort, but the Officer wou'd not obey "the Signal. Then Colo. Mercer sent an Order "to the Officer of said Fort, that when he shou'd "throw a Bomb over the Fort, that then he shou'd "plug up the Cannon that were in said Fort, & "destroy the Amunition that was in the Fort, & "leave it; accordingly they left that Fort & retired "to the next Fort. Then the Enemy in the Even:"=ing began to intrench in Sight of our Men, "who wou'd have fired upon them but were not "allowed, till they had planted six Cannon, then

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"our Gunner fired & dismounted four of their Can:
"=non; Col. Mercer sent for all his Captains &
"had a Paper in his Hand supposed to be some
Articles of Capitulation; whilst he held the Pa:
"=per in his Hand there came a Cannon Shot,
"& tore out his Bowells; This was in the Even:
"=ing; The next Morning, after the French had
fired two Cannon, the English hoisted their
Flag for a Capitulation."

He further informs, "That there is a
"great Army gone to Crown Point, consisting of
"(as the French tell him) 13,000 Regular Troops,
"besides Indians; the Canadeans are to join them
"at a Minutes Warning if wanted; the General
"set out from Canada, last Thursday was a
"Month, for Crown Point. They tell him they
"have undermined Crown Point Fort, in Order to
"blow it up in Case the English shou'd get into it."

The French tell him "their General has
"Orders to take the Forts at or near Lake George,
"then to proceed to Albany, & when they have
"taken that, to advance further into the Country,
"even to Boston if Time and the season will allow."

Thus, Sir, I thought it necessary to
send You this Intelligence, desiring if Your
Honour shall think needful, to communicate it

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to such Persons & Places as You shall think proper to be inform'd thereof.

I am, Sir,

with all due Respect,

Your Honour's

most obedient

& Humble Servant

Isaac Parker.

Copy attest,

Thos. Clarke Depty. Secry.

Endorsed Copy. | Lieut. Parker's Letter to Col°. | Williams of Hatfield. | Charlestown, in New Hampshire. | October 3d. 1756. — | Enclosed in Govr. Phips's Letter of the 8th | of October — | in the E. of Loudoun's Letter | of Novr. 22d. 1756. | 7

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(C.O.5: 48)

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Copy

Boston, October 13th 1756.

My Lord,

I did myself the Honour of writing You the 8th Instant, at which Time I trans:=mitted Your Lordship, the Advices I received from Col.o Williams, relative to the Force of the French, & their Motions. Upon which Occasion I urged our Court to make an immediate Augmenta:=tion of their Forces to be sent to Your Assistance.

But it is with Reluctance I am obliged to inform Your Lordship, that the General Court cou'd not be prevail'd upon, to empower me to draught any more of our Men to march, & have only granted Pay & Subsistance to as many Volunteers as may be inclined to proceed to the Re:=lief of their Countrymen.

Give me Leave to assure Your Lordship, that had it been any Ways in my Power to have march'd a Body of Men to Your Assistance, You wou'd have received a much more speedy & powerful support: But Your Lordship is sensible that by the Royal Charter of this Province, the Governor cannot march any of its Inhabitants without the Bounds of it, but by an Act of the General Court.

When Govr. Shirley left this Province, I had nothing left by him in my Hands for one to execute, nor did he give me the least Information, how Affairs stood with Your Lordship & our Army. And as during the Residence of a Governor in Chief in the Province, the Lieut. Govr. has no share in the Government, nor so much as a Seat at the Council Board, it cannot be supposed, he is so throughly acquainted with the Affairs of the Province as his Station requires when he takes the Chair; However, my Lord, I will during the Govern=ments remaining in my Hands, uprightly endeavour every Thing in my Power to serve his Majesty's Interests in America, and to assist Your Lordship in the arduous Employments in which You are engaged. Being with all possible Respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordships,

most obedient

most humble Servant

Spencer Phips.

Lord Loudoun.

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from Lt. Govr. Phips / to the Earl of Loudoun. / Boston. October 13th. 1756 — / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Novr. 22^d. 1756. / 8

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CO5: 48

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Copy

Boston 19th. October 1756.

My Lord,

In my Letter to Your Lordship, of the 8th. instant, I inform'd You that I had Reason to hope the Thousand Men order'd to march to sustain the Troops at Lake George wou'd soon join them. But to my Mortification a Day or two ago, Advice came from the County of Hampshire, & which was yesterday confirm'd by a Letter from Col.o Williams, the Principal Person of the Militia who was under Orders for Collecting & forwarding those Men; That he had been obliged to suffer them to return to their own Houses, as by some Mistakes, or ill Management in those to whom Govr. Shirley had left the Direction of those Affairs, no Persons were fixt upon as Field Officers for the Regiments, nor (as he says) cou'd any suitable Persons in that County be prevail'd upon to take the Command of them.

I am therefore now endeavouring to find Officers of Ability & spirit here to commissionate, whom I shall send up immediately to those Countys to collect & conduct the Men

with all possible Expedition, & wish they may reach the Camp early enough to be of Service.

I am

With all possible Respect

my Lord,

Your Lordship's

most obedient and

most humble Servant

Spencer Phips.

Lord Loudoun.—

Endorsed Copy. | A Letter from Lt Govr. Phips | to the Earl of Loudoun— | Boston. October 19th. 1756— | in the E. of Loudoun's Letter | of Novr. 22d. 1756. | 9

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Portsmouth, Octr. 16th. 1756.

May it please Your Lordship,

I am hoping the Duplicates of my Let=ters, & papers therein inclosed, came safe to Your Lordship by Lieut. Col^{o}. Hart, by whom I gave Your Lordship full Expectations from the Measures I had taken, of Reinforcing Col^{o}. Meserves Regiment, with one Hundred Men, Ac=cordingly I had provided Transports to take them on Board, most of the Men I had returned inclining to go by Water rather than to under=take a March of three Hundred Miles, which is the least Distance from this place to Fort Edward, in the Road they must take.

Notwithstanding all my Diligence, I have not been able to compleat one Company to this Day, from the low fines on impressed Men, whole Companies have paid, rather than proceed. It gives me the greatest Concern, to see such a Backwardness to this Service, but I was in Expectation on my Meeting the Assembly, I shou'd have prevailed on them to raize the Fines of impressed Men, Accordingly I made that, & Your Lordship's Demands for Aid, the main Object of my Attention, as Your Lordship will observe by a Copy of my Speech to the General

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Assembly of the 12th. Instant herewith transmitted, & by their Answer of the 14th. Your Lordship will be convinced what a Set of people I have to do with, and that the only point I had in View was raising the Fines, without which they very well knew the Grant of one Hundred Men cou'd not be compleated, in Consideration there=fore of this Refusal of the Assembly's, in not raising the Fines, I have thought it fruitless to proceed any further, more especially as the Time already spent, has taken up a great part of the Limitation of the Grant, & the other part must near be spent before they cou'd arrive at Fort Edward.

Your Lordship will observe in the Assem=bly's Answer, that notwithstanding Your repeated De=mands for Aid, they have taken upon them=selves to Judge that it is not for his Majesty's Service, to enlarge the grant made or even to raise the fines for the present Emergency, but that when they think proper to make any fu=ture Grant of Men, they shall think it neces=sary to enlarge the Fines by an Additional Act.

I esteem it my Duty to represent to Your Lordship, that until there is some further power in the King's Governors, a due Obedience to his

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Majesty's Commands in affording Succours to Your Lordship, as the Command the King has been pleased to entrust You with may require, cannot be depended on, and I am well assured that the Assembly of this province will be averse to such an Enlargement, & for want thereof, Your Lordship, with the King's Troops & provincials, when upon Duty together may be exposed to the Enemy, & the Country become a prey to the power of the French, who from the Nature of their Government have greatly the Advantage of these Colonies in all military Operations.

From the vast Difficulties that have arose in transporting provisions to the Lake from Al=bany, & the little prospect there is of succeed=ing under that obstruction, I have been led to think, whether an Enterprize on Quebeck by Water might not be attempted with more proba=bility of Success, provided his Majesty shou'd approve it, by sending a sufficient Naval Force, to cover our Transports; provided also, that all the Colonys unite in the Expedition, by which Means a more powerful Army, with the King's Troops under Your Lordship's Command, might be raised, than it is now, in the power of Canada to bring against it; & as it is apparent,

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we have a Superiority, if they can be assembled, I think it is our Duty to make the best Use of the Means Providence has put into our power, submitting the Success of the undertaking to the allwise Disposer of all Events.

I do not pretend to be well skilled in Military Affairs, as to judge whether it is an Act of Prudence, or consistant with the Rules of War, to put the Fate of all the Colonies on one decisive Battle, but being perswaded, that must be the Case sooner or later, I think it ought to be done before the French grow more powerful, nothing is more certain than that their Troops encrease Yearly on this Continent, but I must submit the Consideration of a Matter of such Im=portance to Your Lordship's Command and the Welfare of North America, to You, who can judge more clearly of the Expediency of it than I can pretend to do, & am with the greatest Respect.

My Lord, / Your Lordship's,

most obedient and / most humble Servant

B Wentworth.—

The Right Honble: John Earl of Loudoun.

Endorsed Copy. / a Letter from Governor / Wentworth to the Earl of Loudoun. / Portsmouth. Octr. 16th 1756 / Not received till 20th November / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Novr. 22d. 1756 / 10

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Copy

New Haven, 18th, October, 1756_

My Lord,

As it was with extream Concern, I cou'd not, immediately comply with Your Lordship's De=mand in Your Letter of the 30th of September, for a Reinforcement from this Colony, I em=braced the first Opportunity, as I wrote You in my Letter of the 8th Instant I shou'd, to recommend the matter to the Assembly, who accordingly took it into Consideration, in the Be=ginning of the Session. And I now have the Satisfaction to acquaint Your Lordship, the As=sembly have agreed that there be forthwith rais=ed in this Colony eight Companies, each to consist of one Hundred Men including Officers to be added to the four Regiments sent from hence, now in Service, as an Aid to the Army, & that these Companies are to be inlisted, or forthwith detached from the Militia of the Gov=ernment, & to march as fast as they are fill=ed up. I am further to acquaint Your Lord=ship, that for the Encouragement of these Re=cruits, the Assembly have resolved, that as soon as the Army goes into Winter Quarters, or sooner, if the safety of the Army & the Country,

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will admit, they are to be at Liberty to return Home. I thought it expedient to give Your Lordship this early Notice of what the Assembly had done, as it might be for his Majesty's service, for You to know the Steps taken here for reinforcing the Army, before their Arrival, which I presume will be in a short Time, & even as soon as they can possibly be sent forward.

As Your Lordship has a tender Concern for the Soldiery, and the Ease of the Colonies, as well as for saving the Expence of the Crown I doubt not You will see our Forces are released as soon as the Service will admit of it. The great Expence the Colony is at, and the extreme Difficulty it meets with in making Provision to defray the Charges arising on these Occasions (which we fear cannot be done without making further Use of our Credit to the great Prejudice of the publick Interest) necessitates us to request Your Lordship's Favour, in Case of it, as soon and as far as the Service will with Safety permit, I am

My Lord, (with the highest Esteem)

Your Lordship's

most obedient, & most humble Servant

Thos. Fitch.

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P. S. Being inform'd the small Pox has got into Albany, which I apprehend will greatly terrifie our People, I doubt not Your Lordship will take the necessary Measures to prevent its getting into the Army, which will prove fatal to it, and endanger the Country where few have ever had that Distemper.

The Rt. Honble Earl of Loudoun.

Endorsed Copy. | A Letter from Govr. Fitch | to the Earl of Loudoun. | New Haven. October, 18th. 1756. | in the E. of Loudoun's Letter | of Novr. 22d. 1756. | 11

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Quebec le 20e. Aoust 1756.

Mr. Chinon

Au Cap Francais

Les Anglois de ce Continent sont aux a bois tant nous les avons mal menés les pauvres Diables ne savent plus a quel saint se vouer car comme vous savés, ils n'en connais=sent Guerre On fait etat que depuis l'annés dre nous leur avons tués 4000 Hommes sans compter ceux que la misere et les Desertions leur enlevent tous les jours. Il nous est venu cette Année 3 M L h des Troupes et beaucoup plus la passée: la plus grande partie sont occupes au Fort Chouaguén qui a dit etre attaqué avant le 15e. ct et qui surement ne nous resistera pas long temps. la Prise de ce Fort nous mettra a meme de faire des Courses jusqu'au Portes D'oranges et nous rendra entierement Maitres du Lac Ontario ou nous etions Obligés d'avoir des Corsaires pour faire tête a ceux de nos ennemis, dans Sadte affaire qui s'est passée sur ce Lac, Mr. De Villieres leur a tué 400 hommes et enlevé 100 Canots nos Sauvages sont animés contreux jusqu'à la ferocité & ne se lassent point de faire des Chevelures.—

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Je me flatte que vous voudres bien me donner de vos Cheres Nouveller & me croire avec les Sentimens les plus sincere

Votre tres humble et tres

Obeissant Serviteur

Pierre Meynardie Jun.r

Nous a prenons dans ce moment que Chouaguen est pris, dittes Je vous prie a Mons.r Memier et Doyes de vous communiquer la Relation que je leurs envoye'.

Endorsed Copy | Of the last Paragraph of a Letter from | A Merchant at Quebec, to his | Cor:respondent at Cape Francoise | 20th August 1756. | Taken from on board the Prize Snow | Spring time – M. Tradin Master | An Account of the Seige of Oswego | enclosed – | in the E. of Loudoun's Letter | of Nov.r 22d. 1756. | 13

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Coppie d'une Lettre ecrite de Montreal le 16e. Aoust 1756.

Je vous ai promis Mon cher Meynardie de vous donner des Nouvelles. Je le fais au:-jourdhui avec grand Plaisir. L'Evenement qui y donne Lieu et mes Sentimens pour vous excitent a l'Envi mon Empressement. Que ne puisse y satisfaire sans Precipitaion.

Chouaguen est pris Mr. De Villieres est arrivé á un Heure aprés Midi & nous a aportés cette heureuse Nouvelle. Nous avions a:-pris Peu d'heures auparavant celle de l'overture de la Tranchée devant cette Place, et de la Prise d'un petit Fort, La Joye a ete ici bien vive et bien generale, l'entrée du Mr. De Villieres avoit bien de quoi l'exciter; La Caisse Mili:-taire, cinq beaux Drapeaux pris sur les En:-nemis marchoit devant lui. Je laisse ces petits Detauls pour passer a d'autres plus essentielles plus surprenant et par là plus digne de votre Attention.

Mr. du Moncalm arriva avec tout son Monde le 10e. a la Vüe des Forts Ennemis. La Tranchée fut ouverte le 11e. devant celui appellé le Fort Ontario; elle fut poussée avec Vivacité et la Bat:-terie auroit tiré dans peu de Tems; Mais les Anglois ne l'attendirent pas; Ils evacuerent le

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Poste le 12e. a 4 Heures du Soir. Ils y etoient au Nombre de 300. La Tranchée fut tout de Suite continués jusqu'au fort Pris & c'est de là que Chouaguen fut asses vivement canoné pend:=ant la Nuit du Vendredi, au Samedi. des le Matin l'Ennemi capitula. Le Commandant venoit d'etre tué. Differentes Capitulation furent pro:=posées & avant Midi Mr. de Moncalm accepta celle par laquelle la Garnison c'est rendu prison:=niere de Guerre sans autre Condition que la Liberté aux Habitants et Marchands de cette Contrée d'y rester ou de retourner dans la Nouv=velle Angleterre. Cette Expedition une des plus importantes que cette Colonie ait vû ne nous couté que 3 Hommes tués et environes douze blessés, le croira-t-on? Elle nous rend cependant Maitres de 1600 Anglois, d'une Artillerie considerable, et d'une Quantité immense de Munitions de Guerre & de Bouche.

J'oublois de vous dire que pendant la Durée du Siege les Barques Angloises qui etoient dans la Lac se sont presentées Journellement; Mais quelques Pieces de notre Canon placés fort apropos sur la Greve les ont toujours ecartées. Il y avoit dans le port de Chouaguen sept Barques dont une sur l'echantier et fort grosse. Du

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Nombre du morts est Mr. Descomble 1r. Ingenieur; il merite a just Titre touts nos Regrets, Sa Mort est deplorable elle a été causée par la Mes=prise la plus facheuse. Il portoit son Uniforme trop semblable aux Habits Anglois. Un de nos sauvages le prit pour un Ennemi, le tira, et le tua dans le Tems qu'il reconnoissoit le Fort le 11e. a la point de jour. Mr. Debourlamarque a été blessé légerement d'un Coup de feu a la Tête.

Lorsque des Eclaircissemens certains et suffisans pour une Relation en regle, me seront parvenus je ne tarderai pas a la dresser; Je vous l'envoyerrai toute de suite et en m'a-quit=tant de ma Promesse, je serai charmé de le faire naitre une nouvelle Occasion de vous assurer de l' Attachment egalement parfait, et sincere avec lequelle, j'ai l' honneur d'etre, Mr. &ca

Endorsed Copy of a Letter dated at / Monreal, 18th. August 1756.- / Being an Account of the taking / of Oswego, enclosed in a Letter / of the 20th. of August from Mr. / Pierre Meynardie Junr. to Mr. / Chinon at Cap Francois. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Novr. 22d. 1756. / 14

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Information of Captain John Vicars of the 50th Regiment Commanded by Major General William Shirley —

Having Obtaind a Commission in the 50th Regiment I came in the Transports that were sent out with the Troops on Major General Braddocks Expedition and went with them to Virginia, and from thence went round to Bos:=ton where I Landed April 7th. 1755.

When I arrived there were about 300 Men of the Regiment in Castle William who I imagine were men they were afraid would desert they were in Barracks in the Fort.

Some time after my arrivall we En:=camp'd, and the other men of the Regiment were calld in,

When we marchd from thence for Oswego we were about 800, the Regiment never was Compleat,

I know nothing of the Expence of the Recruits, as I never was employed in Re:=cruiting nor ever saw any Account of it, before the Regiment Left the Island when they were Encamp'd, Judge Hutchinson Major General Shirleys Son in Law came to Camp and paid of what demands the men had to a Certain

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day but I have forgot to what day it was, from that day the Officers had the paying of the men, I was by when the Judge paid my Com:=pany, and saw him paying the other Companys.

In the end of July or beginning of August 1755 I commanded the Escort that Ma:=jor General Shirley took with him from Al:=bany to Oswego where I remaind till the 3d. of July 1755 the Escort Consisted of 80 Men of the 50th. and 70 Men of the 51st. Captain Delancy Commanded them.

I know nothing of the Number of Battoes that were up with us but that I had 6 for my Detachment

I Recollect no want of Provisions on the March up but think we were short in provisions the Latter end of the time Mr. Shir:=ley was at Oswego

I know nothing of what provisions they were we had at Oswego, whither they were those Provided by Major General Shirley or those Provided by the Province of New York for the Independant Companys I know we were short of Provisions soon after the General left Oswego and had the Poor Fellows Lived they must have Eat one another.

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C.O. 5:48

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That General Shirley gave Furloughs to a great many men before he left Oswego, and that Lieutenant Colonel Mercer was forced to give a great many afterwards to save the Pro:=visions, that I beleive there were about 300 men on Furlough from the Two Regiments

I was a Member of several Councils of War in which we met to deliberate whether we should abandon the Place on Account of the want of Provisions, in one of which it was agreed if no supply arrived in Ten days we should abandon the Garrison and Retire to the German Flatts, but in Five days after there arrived Four Battoes with Provisions

I know Lieutenant Colonel Mercer writ after to show the State of the Garrison, and to desire to have Provisions and a Reinforce:=ment of men as he Expected to be Attack'd

I am sure Colonel Mercer never writ a Letter in which he said the Garrison never was in want of Provisions for he was too honest a Man to write what every Man in the Garrison could Contradict.]

When General Shirley Left Oswego my Company consisted of 50 Men that before may there were 39 of them dead and one taken

Prisoner. I think each of the 8 Companys at Oswego Lost above 30 Men

I am of Opinion this Mortality was owing to bad Barracks, and want of Beds which threw the men into Scurveys, and the Water which gave them Fluxes

x There were no Barracks in the Fort of Oswego, only a Guard Room and one Room for the Commanding Officer, all the Garrison Lay without the Forts, where there were two shingled Houses in the one of which Lieutenant Colonel Littlehales lived, in the other Captain Moore the Paymaster Lived whilst he Stayed, when he went away two Lieutenants of the Ships got it, there was a Barrack of three rooms in which there was two Tire of Bedsteeds but no bedding, as the Barracks was made of green Boards, they all split and the snow drove in Constantly on the men, the rest Lived in Bark Hutts & Lay on the Ground all winter x

The two shingl'd Houses of two small Rooms each and all the Hutts belonged to the Indian Traders and Settlers.

The Recruits that came up this Year were very bad, a great many of them spoke French and were the People that Inveigled the

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Men to desert, one dutch man in the Train car=ried off three men

when I left Oswego the Garrison were Pretty healthy as it Consisted mostly of Recruits just come up, the men that Compos'd the Gar=rison in the Winter being mostly dead.

In January we were inform'd by the Indians that we were to be Attack'd the Gar=rison was then so Weak, that the Strongest Guard we propos'd to mount, was a Subaltern and 20 men, but we were seldom able to mount more then 16 or 18 men, and half of those were oblig'd to have Sticks in their hands to Support them, the men were so weak that the Sentereys often fell down on their Posts, and Lay there till the Relief came and Lift=ed them up,

That two or three times when we escpected to be attack'd in the Night The Carpenters mounted Guard.

Before the Recruits arrived my Company was only ten Men, the other Companys were Little stronger—

The Lieutenant Colonels Company was with Lieutenant Bull at the great carrying place, where they were all either Killd or taken when the

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Fort was burnt, the Granadiers went down the Country with Major General Shirley, and I met them going up when I came down

The Regiment was paid at Schenectada in their way up in the end of July or beginning of August 1755 to the 24th. of October, that the Paymaster Left at Oswego some money in the hands of Lieut. Canden who gave some money to Officers that Wanted, but I do not know to what Extent, I received 200 dollars of my own Personal Pay, but none for the men, as none of the Regiment were paid up farther than the 24th. October 1755, till Captain Moore the Paymaster arrived at Oswego Four days before I left it, when I received Bills from him for 6 Months Personal Pay up to the 24th. of August 1756; but there was little due to them when I came away, as we had supply'd them with Chocolate, Tea, Sugar, Coffee, Shirts, shoes & Stockings, we carried up of those some things to supply them with but the main of them were supply'd by Mr Alescander the Generals Secretary, who carried up a great quantity of Goods from Boston and deliverd them over to each Corps, I think those goods of Mr Alescanders went up with the Regimts. I suppose the Paymaster paid him for them, but

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I do not know the Price as I never Received any Abstract.

When those were expended we bought the Goods from Mr Lewis the Commissary for ready money, who I heard was Mr Alexanders Partner, I do not Recollect the Prices, but I know we bought Breeches for Fourteen Shillings Currency or Eight Shillings and two Pence Sterling, we took so much care to supply the men, that Several of my Company died in my debt,

The Recruits that came up Grumbled for want of their Pay, and I have been told that several of the deserters that were taken, at their Tryal Plead that as they neither received their Pay nor Sufficient Pro=visions, they went away to Prevent their Starving.]

× Fort Ontario was a good Place against Indians, the Barracks were better then those at Oswego by which Sir William Pepperrells Regi=ment Lost fewer men than the 50th at Oswego, but the Barracks were built so near the Stock=ades they could make no defence behind them; there was a Stage made round near the Top of the Stockades where the Cannon were Placed, as I was in a bad state of health I never

was in it after the Barracks were finish'd

There were no works in Oswego toward the Attack where Cannon could be used but from the Old store Trading House where they formerly had two Cannon, but the Firing them on the Rejoi=ing days shook the Wall so much that several stones fell out of the Wall, for which they were oblig'd to remove them

The Fort call'd new Oswego or Fort Rascal never was finished & there were no Loop Holes in the Stockades so that they could not Fire out of the Fort but by opening the Gate and Firing out of that

There was a kind of a ditch about half way round it which was made by taking out some Earth to fix the Stockades.

John Vickers

New York January 4th. 1757

Endorsed Copy/ Information of Captain/ John Vickers of the/ 50th Regiment/ January 4th 1757/ in the E. of Loudoun's Letter/ of Novr. 22d. 1756./ 15/ Eq

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C.O.5:48

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New York January 4th 1757.

Sir,

I have the honor of Your Letter of October 2d, by the Packet, in which you Acquaint me, that His Majesty had been pleased to Order Major General O'Farrell's Regiment, and the twenty four Additional Companies from Ireland, to New York. I have prepared Quarters for them here, and in the Villages on Long Is=land, and in this Neighbourhood.

I shall immediately on their Arrival, com=pleat Major General O'Farrell's Regiment, to one thousand Men, and altho' I have reason to Imagine, that the three Regiments in Nova Scotia, are very near compleat, if not quite so, as by their returns to me of the 1st of October, they wanted but two hundred and Eighty two Men to compleat them to the numbers expected; and one Regiment there has since that, received one hundred Men, and a great many Recruits gone to the other Regiments, the numbers of which I do not exactly know. but after En=quiring of Captain Cotterell, who is Secretary to the Province, at present here, for the Recovery of his Health, I shall reserve for those Regi=ments three hundred Men, and shall send

them to Halifax as soon as I can with safety; the remainder I shall divide among the Troops here, according as I find them when they arrive.

Last Night, one of those Transports was off the Land, and got a Pilote on board; as it blew very hard off the Land, she could not get in; but I do not apprehend any danger; the People in the Pilote boat acquaint me, that they told them, they had parted from the Fleet about ten days ago, and that they had two hundred and Fifty Soldiers aboard, which was all he could hear.

On the first of this Month, we got Intelligence from a Merchant in New York, that a Gentleman at Philadelphia, in the Coffee house, about a fortnight ago, Enquired if there was a Letter at the Post Office here, directed for Pierre Fidel; and on being told there was, said he wished he would forward it to him, As the Gentleman for whom it was directed, is now on the Frontier the Mer:=chant did not know the Man, but says, he was dressed like an Officer, and thinks he is a Stranger. This Intelligence came to Sir Charles Hardy, and on Sunday morning I sent off Colonel Stanwix, and the Merchant to Point

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out the Man, with Orders, if he is still there, to secure him and his Papers, and all such Per=sons as appear, either from examining him, or from his Papers, to be engaged with him.

Before the Information arrived, Mr. Webb was going to Philadelphia, to take the Com=mand of the Troops, and to enquire after an Account, I mentioned to You in a former Let=ter, I had of a number of Men, that had Assembled and Marched off, to join the Enemy, that they had been pursued and taken; but I do not find, that any one was ever punished for this, or that it has ever been reported to the Government at home; but Mr. Webb has been so much out of Order, for ten days, that it was not in his Power, to undertake the Journey. I hope Colonel Stanwix may be there this Night, tho' the Snow is very deep, all over the Country, which makes Travelling very tedi=ous at present.

On the 5th, at Night, the Transport I mentioned above, arrived here: She proves to be the Baltimore; Colonel Rollo is on board, by whom I am informed, they Sailed from Cork November 6th, and parted with the Fleet on the 18th, in a hard Gale of Wind before they

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reached the Western Islands; they have in her, one hundred and Seventy Eight Soldiers, and acquaints me, that the whole amount to Seven=teen hundred. They have taken in their Voi=age, the St. Vincent, of Bourdeaux, and retook the Muscovy belonging to London, coming from Jamaica, and bound to London.

I shall mention nothing of the drafts, till I see them, and when Colonel Prevost arrives, who has the different returns of them, from their Regiment, I shall Send You a propper return of their Numbers, and what they are.

As I must set out on Saturday Morn=ing for Boston, I shall only add, that I am most impatient to know, how the General Plan I proposed for next Campaign is approved of, because, according to the Plan that is to be executed, the preparations must be made, and will be extremely different for different Plans.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest Respect, Sir,

Your most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant.

Loudoun

The Right Honble Henry Fox.

Endorsed New York. Jany 4th. 1757. | Earl of Loudoun | R. Feby 11th.

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To the Right Honourable John Earl of Loudoun Lord Mackline & Tarrenzean &c &c &c General and Commander in Chief of all his Majestys Forces in North America –

My Lord

Having received your Excellencys commands that I answer the following Questions –

What was the cause such want of Provisions at Oswego from the Time of General Shirleys arrival there to the Time of its being Supplyd in the Spring following? – And the State of that Garrison during that Time? –

Shall give your Lordship what Offerd to my Observation, at the Onydas Carrying place, and the Authentick Accounts I have recd. relative thereto.

And I humbly conceive one Material Cause was the not procuring a Sufficiency; and getting them to Schenectada in Season, while the Waters were high, and the Farmers business on Hudsons & the Mowhawks Rivers would allow of their Attendance on the Batteau Service; This I ground chiefly upon what Mr. Alexander said to me (several being present) when he was going with the Genl. to Oswego. I told him the Army would want provisions, for I

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had seen but Little go along, and knew the General had not Enough with him to last his Escort to Oswego. He replyed its impossible but that there should be enough, for that there had been 500. bls of pork sent to Schenectada to Mr. Visger (sic), who being present acknowledged the Receipt of them and Accounted for Them — And he made no mention of any more being sent, but Said that there were such Droves of Cattle, on the Road, & to be follow'd with others that it was impossible they should want.

And after there was a New supply of Provisions procured on the Mowhawks River and more sent to Schenectada from below; no Contract being made

The Justices with the greatest difficulty could & did pick up a man here & There for Batteau Men, who were Accountable to no man; and many when they got as far as the Carrying place would put their Loads on Shoar & run off; And others (generally Speaking) the Best Batteau Men, were taken into private Mens Service that followed the Army, and others that went to Oswego upon Trading Accounts — They giving more for the Trip than

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was given by the Government.

There being no Contract or Sett of Men to call upon, but the Justices, has been a Means of Delaying every party that Arrived at Schenec:=tada.

And another 'great cause of Delay, was the want of Horses at the Onydas Carry:=ing Place, which was occasiond as the Ger:=mans told me by there not being paid, That they went again & again to Herkermer & Petrie (the persons appointed by Mr Alexander to pay them who keept the Stores or Shops) and they told them they might have goods, but that they had no Money. And this Spring when Captn. Bradstreet went up with 400 Whale Boats & Batteaux he could by no means get 60. Span of Horses, protesting they would not go till the Old Score was paid — And when I came down in July many came to me and told me they were not paid for last Sum:=mers work —

Whether the Batteau men were duly paid I cant Affirm, but I have frequently heard them say they were not, and protest they would not come again till they were

Whether Sixty Seven Batteau Loads be

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enough, or too much, for a Commissary & Sutler for such a Number of Officers & men, I leave to better Judges, but that such a Number were imployed upon the Governments Charge, as also a Number that were Loaded with Trunks & Bales that went to Oswego with the General, and were as as Mr Alexander told me, presents for the Indians — Is what I am certain of —

The Lawless and uncontroled Use and Waste of provisions by the Batteau Men, makes a great Stride towards the Consumption of the provisions

The want of Commissarys at the German Flatts and Carrying place and the want of Scales & Weights, to weigh out provisions to those that past & repast as well as to the Sol=diers posted There.

The great consumption of provisions by the Indians, for which Mr Alexander told me he made no Calculation —

Not to say any thing of the want of Sheds or Stores to Secure them from the Rain & Sun —

That Oswego was Short of Provisions, while General Shirley was there will appear by his Son Captn. Shirleys Letter to Me wherein he

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says that the Forces were reduced to half allow: =ance, and at that allowance could Subsist but a few Days. And by Colo Mercers in which he says repeatedly that The Garrison has been kept at Two Thirds from the Time General Shirley left it to this Spring -

That Oswego must have been Abandond before Mid: Winter had not the Soldiers been imployed as Batteau Men; every one that knows any thing of the Affair will Allow.

To whom also they owed their releif, when under Terrible apprehensions, in March last, by breaking thrô the Ice, a thing never known before; at that Season, nor could have been done now, had not the Winter & Frosts been unusually Moderate.

Whether the Short allowance of what they Had, and total depriwation of Some articles, and Miserable Lodgings, were the Causes of so great Mortality among Them, are things of Serious consideration & reflection.

And whether the Commissarys Sell: =ing his rum to Them for four Dollars a Gallon, and mean brown Sugar for half a Dollar a pound, and other things in proportion, and the Soldiers kept out of

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their pay for 6 or 8. Months, has not been the Occasion of so many desertions to the French and Elsewhere — May, be thot a Subject of Future inquiery —

I am

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient and

Devoted Servant

Wm. Williams —

Albany Septr. 10th. 1756.

Endorsed Capt William Williams / Albany Sept 10t 1756 / Information / A

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John Henry Sydius Esqr. of Albany, saith. That he was in Boston in May 1755, & received then from Mr. Shirley a Commission dated May 15th 1755, appointing him Colonel & Commander in Chief of all Indians to be em=ployed in the Niagara Expedition with the Pay of 10/- Sterling pr. Day. He advised Mr. Shirley to buy Goods for Indian Presents, which were bought at Boston by Mr. John Erwin Junr., Son in law to Gen. Shirley, to the Value of between 3 & 4 Hundred Pounds Sterling. These Goods were sent from Boston to Albany. Mr. Alexander, Secretary to Gen. Shirley, show'd Mr. Sydius the Invoice of said Goods, lodged in Mr. Stephenson's Storehouse. Mr. Sydius can't say positively that the Goods bought at Boston never went to Oswego, but can say that they never were apply'd to any Use in that Ser=vice, & did never hear of them after he left Albany. He is sure that no Part of them were given to the Indians, & when he ap=ply'd for Shirts, Knives & such other Things as Indians are fitted out with, he cou'd never get any one Thing; so that when he engaged or fitted out any Indians, he was forced to give in Money out of his own

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Pocket (which he has been repaid, within this Month by Mr. Alexander when he was last in Albany) ten Dollars & ten Dollars & an Half apiece. If these Goods were carried to Oswego, they were either there remaining when the Fort was taken or were sold by Lewis, the Commissary. What few Things were given to the Indians, he does believe were given from those Goods, which Gen. Braddock order'd Sr. Wm. Johnson to send up with Capt. Bradstreet, which Col. Lydius understood to be the Amount of £300 Sterling. Lieut. Mills lodged in the Room where these Goods were stored, & can best give an Account what were taken out, & what remain'd when he left Oswego.

After Mr. Shirley arrived at Albany, he delay'd there a great Time, but what was the Reason of that Delay, Mr. Lydius cannot say, as he never cou'd learn. [When Mr. Shirley set out from Scenectady his Party consisted of 600 to the best of Mr. Lydius's Memory, which marched by Land. There were 80 Batteaux to attend this Party, the Rest were loaded with Goods, Merchandize, Baggage & some Provisions, but so few that these Provisions were out before they go to the great Oneida Carrying Place about

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40 Miles beyond the Settlements, & they must have starved had not some Cattle been bought at the German Flatts & sent forward for them; this served them only while there, & they cou'd not have got further, had not Col.o Lydius & Mr. Vischer bought five Oxen, which they drove on to the Oneida Lake & killed there. These served them for Provisions till they arrived at the Falls on Oswego River, when their Pro=visions were again entirely at an End: & in this state, without Provisions, did the Party ar=rive at Oswego, altho' when they were at the great Oneida Carrying Place, they re=ceived Accounts from Oswego, that the Garrison wou'd soon want Provisions. When this Account of the Want of Provisions at Oswego came to Gen. Shirley, while he was at the Oneida Car=rying Place Mr. Alexander asked Mr. Visher, whether there had not been sent from Scenec=tady 500 Barrels of Pork, which Mr. Vischer said there had, & had been sent to Oswego. This was all the Provisions that were ever mention'd to have been provided at that Time, except that when Col.o Lydius heard this and said that they wou'd certainly starve at Oswego, for Want of Provisions, they said that was

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impossible & talked of Great Droves of Oxen & Provisions coming up. However, the Fact proved, that for the whole Time that Colo. Lydius was at Oswego the Soldiers were at Half Allowance. Colo. Lydius's Party, consisting of 250 Albany People & Indians were all this While at full Allowance, in Order to disguise our Want & Distress from the Indians & that They might not take Disgust. As to the State of Niagara at That Time, Colo. Lydius doth say, that while they were at the great Oneida Carrying Place, he sent off two white Men & two Indians, as Spies thither, which return'd to Oswego about 10 Days after Gen. Shirley's Arrival at that Place. They brought back authentic Proofs of their hav=ing been there, particularly Aaron, the Indian, who lay two Nights within the Fort at Nia=gara, & did affirm that it was only piqueted in, & that the Stockadoes were rotten at the Ground, so that they were forced to be sured up with Props, & that there were not above 100 Men in it. From a Conviction of this State of Niagara, Colo. Lydius, as he apprehended that Gen. Shirley wou'd never go thither, himself, did at two several Times propose that if Genl. Shirley wou'd let him have 300 Men of Colo.

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Schuyler's together with his own Party, & one of the Vessels, he wou'd go & take it. This he was refused, & asked by a person there, whether he wou'd have all the Honour to himself? He did again a third Time, together with Capt. Vischer, offer to go to Niagara, if they wou'd let him have only his own Party of Albany Men & Indians & one Vessel, & that he and Capt. Vischer wou'd give a joint Bond of a Thousand Pounds as a Security for the Vessel, but this he was refused also. He does positively say, that he cou'd have taken it. It has been said, this cou'd not have been undertaken for Want of Provisions, which as to this proposal is not Fact. For his Party was at this Time & all the While they stay'd, at full Allowance & he only desired 4 or 5 Days Provision, as his Party cou'd live by their Fishing & Fowling.

John. H. Lydius

Albany Sept. 21st 1756

Endorsed Lydius - Evidence - / Albany Sept. 21 1756 /

B

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To His Excellency The Right Honᵇˡᵉ John Earl of Loudoun. General & Commander in Chief of all his Majestys Forces in North America

The Examination of James Reade late Assist Commissary

Mr James Read says that he Arrived at the Oneida Carrying the beginning of Feby last, as Assistant Commissary, & upon shewing them Mr Leake's Instructions, took what Stores were there, which were but few, into his possession, that Capt. Williams, that had the Command of the Fort desired he shod. send, what provisions, he had to Bulls fort.

In the latter end of Feby Capt. Williams received several Letters from Col Mercer, that they were in great Want of Provisions, at Oswego; and in March he also received many Letters, to the same purpose, acquainting him that if he had not a Supply of Provisions, he must be oblidg'd to Abandon, Oswego, before the 25th of March, the last mention'd Letters, were sent open, directed to Genl. Shirley, that they might be seen both by Civil & Millitary Officers, for to urge a supply of Provisions, for the said Garrison as the said Williams, had not comply'd

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with the first Letters, at which time the Indians had given an Account, of the Enemys, Marching towards fort Bull, & Capt. Williams & Others, thought it not only, dangerous but impossible, on Acco.t of the Ice, on Oneida Lake, to send a supply of Provisions; the said Read took four:=teen Battoes, loaded with Provisions, to the Lake & there met with John Vansais, who lived with the Indians, coming with an open Letter; from Col. Mercer, repeating the Former grevances, then the sd Read unloaded the Battoes on the Ice rolling the Barls. of Provisions over & drag:=ging afterwards the Battoes, & arrived at Oswego the 24th. of March, were he was received by Col. Mercer with great Joy, saying if he had not have come, that in two, or three, days long:=er he wou'd, have been intirely out, of Pro:=visions, & that he had intended to march away before that time, but depended that some:=body wou'd relieve him, he then called for Mr. Lewis [

[illegible]]

]

upon which Mr. Lewis replied, that there was no Occasion, for there was none but about an Allowance for three days, He then asked Col Mercer the reason of his not firing the morning

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Gun, in the Fort, he said the wall was Crack:
=ed, & that he had fired it once, which Shat:
:terd it worse for which reason he was oblidged
to fire it out of the Fort

No improvement, on the old Fort but a
smal Fachine Battery made, which Col Mercer
had done, since General Shirley was there, &
that on a Hill on the same side of the Water,
were an intended fort, was to have been, there
was only a few Stakes put up,

Fort Ontario on the opposite side, of
the Water, was a Stockad'd Fort Tolerably well
Finish'd.

The said Reade further saith that on
his return from Oswego he found Bulls fort,
Destroy'd, and as far as he can Charge his
Memory, he believes there might be in it, 70
Bar^o^ of Meat, 40 Bar^o^ of Flour, 50 Bags of
pease, 25 Bags of Flour, 25 Tierces of Bread,
& 10 Bbls of Rum, & on his Arrival at the great
carrying Place, he told Capt Williams that the
provisions, that he had carried to Oswego, wou'd
last but a short time & that if he wou'd
give him Men, he woud again venture up,
he made Answer to him, if he was fool enough
to loose his life, the Men shou'd not loose

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theirs; Capt. Williams ordered his Men a Gill of Rum ℘ Day, which was given to them, while there was any, also the Indians had Rum ℘ an Order from General Shirley, not exceed-=ing three Gallons, but notwithstanding that order, they had oftener Six Gallons; & the said Reade also says that he never knew that Capt. Williams had such a quantity of Rum, till one Day, Mr. Pritchard Commissary of the Musters, seeing Indians and Others coming out of a House, with Rum asked Read who sold Rum there, pointing to the House, which house was Captain Williams's, upon which ye said Reade went, directly, to Capt. Williams, to enquire about it, who told him that he had, had a Cargoe of 60 Barls of Rum, consign'd to him, & that the chief part of it, he had sent to Oswego, & the remainder, which was in leaky Casks, he sold to the Indians, ℘ order of Genl Shirly, also the Slaymen, apply'd to the said Reade to know the reason, that provisions, was not sold, to them as formerly, he said that he did not know & that he had no orders to do the like, so he belives that Capt. Williams, has the Cash, arising from the sale of the said Rum and provisions.

Albany Sep 15th 1756 James Reade

Endorsed James Reade's Examination / Sep 15th. 1756 / C

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To his Excellency John Earl of Loudoun Lord Mackline & Tarrinzean &c. &c. &c. General & Commander in chief of all his Majestys Forces in North America—

The Memorial of Captn. William Williams of his Majestys 51st. Regiment

Humbly Sheweth

That his Excell.y General Shirley on the 12th of August 1755. gave Him orders, to take charge of Batteaux, Slaymen, & provisions that came to the Onyda Carrying place, as will ap=pear by his orders of that Date, which were backd by Divers orders from him and his Secretary relative thereto, and in perticular that He should pay them &ca. wch. He did and in November following paid Him the Ballance of his Account being near £500„ York Currency—

That when Genl. Shirley came down from Oswego, he gave Him Orders for building Fort Williams, and several other Services, as will appear by his Orders of Octr. 29. In pur=suance of which Your Memorialist Employed his men as Batteau men, Labourers, & Slay=men, for which he has paid them out of his own Money as far as he could and con=siderable remains due to Them— And farther

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That when your Memorialist heard of Genl Shirleys, arrival in Albany this Summer, He sent down the Acct that is herewith Ex=hibited, to his Secretary Mr Alexander; who sent it back to him for his Affidavit or Vouchers; And no man being in Civil power at the Carry=ing place, Majr Craven of sd Regimt & Com=mandant there Ordered Captn Jocelyn the Presi=dent of a Court Martial, to Sware him to said Acct which he did before sd Court— Upon which your Memorialist immediately by Express, sent it to James Stevenson of this Town, to for=ward to Mr Alexander if he should be gone, as was the case, and He did directly send it to Him.

But may it please your Lordship either through forgetfullness or the Multiplicity of Business, it has lain Unnoticed untill General Shirley has been superceeded in Command.

Which is the Occasion of this Memorial beging your Lordship to consider my Case, and af=ford me what releif therein shall appear proper to your Lordship. I am/with profound Esteem & respect

My Lord / Your Lordships

Most Obedient and / Devoted Servant

Albany August 18. 1756—

Wm Williams

Endorsed Captn Wm Williams / his Memorial To / Lord Loudoun— / Augt 18. 1756— / D

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1755 Novr. 23. William Alexander Esqr. To William Williams ...... Dr...

To Riding Account.

Marginal note	Item	£ s d
I have paid all this Acct. and sent Barkers, Lucas & Hatchers, Receipts to Mr. Alexander as Vouchers to Account, have wrote to him Three Times for them and my Account since I have been in Albany but have recd. no Answer from him	To Cash paid Danl. Murphy	£ 3 : 16 : 6.
	Ditto paid an Indian	: 18 : -
	Ditto paid Ditto	: 18 : -
	Ditto paid for Slays for the Indians by Colo. Bradstreets Order	5 : 16 : -
	Ditto paid a Squaw for her Slay	: 8 : -
	Ditto paid her for Riding	1 : 5 : -
	Ditto paid 3. Slaymen with Loads from the German Flats the first that Ever came at 1£.	9 : - : -
	Ditto paid John Baker for Riding ...	£ 59 : 19 : -
	Ditto paid Danl. Lucas	28 : 13 : -
	Ditto paid Stephen Hatch	38 : 18 : -
	Ditto paid Saml. Squire	4 : 7 : -
	Ditto paid Nichs. Wood	2 : 5 : -
	Ditto Paid Saml. Masters	6 : 12 : -
	Ditto John Bryant	4 : 13 : -
	Ditto To Fredrick Piper	2 : 14 : -
Paid all this but Eq. Bradstreets Acct. No. A.	Due to Soldiers of my Company for riding while Colo. Bradstreet was up the first Time according to his Acct. given me...	30 : 8 : -
		£200 : 10 : 6

Cash paid The Indians for Expresses, Patroling & Guardings—

	Item	£ s d
vizt.	Paid Ileas for Piloting the Carpenters to Onondaga..	£ 2 : 8 : -
	Ditto to Abraham the Indian on the River for Damage for Dammage done his House & Corn by Colo. Bradstreets desire.	: 16 : -
	Gave Mr. Blain the head Carpenter 3 dollars for to pay the Indians for his mens lodging and the use of their Kittles &c.	1 : 4 : -
	Paid an Indian for going Express to Sir Wm. Johnsons ...	1 : 4 : -
	Paid Ilias for Ditto	1 : 4 : -
	Paid another for Ditto	1 : 4 : -
	Paid Etookam for going Spy to Wood Creek ...	8 : -
	Paid the Queen for dammage done her House ...	16 : -
	Paid Etookam for going Express to ye German Flatts ..	16 : -
	Paid 4. Expresses to Oswego	16 : - : -
	Paid the Indians that came with Jno. Davis from Oswego.	3 : 4 : -
	Paid the Indians for Guarding 2 gangs of Battoes to the Lake.	4 : 8 : -
	Paid Ditto for Covering Magazine & Majr. Cravens House ...	2 : 4 : -
	Paid ditto that went with Colo. Schyler & Majr. Hennecer to ye Lake	6 : 16 : -
	Paid Ditto for covering the Guard House	2 : 8 : -
	To 6 peices of Gimp for distinguishing Marks for Ditto ...	3 : - : -
		£48 : - : -
	Carryed forward	£248 : 10 : 6

The above Acct. I have paid Every penny of excepting the Article of £6.16.. which Colo. Schyler paid and wrote me desiring that I would give him Credit so much as he had no Acct. of any sort open with the Government.

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Dr. ______________________ William Alexander Esqr.

To the Sum brot from the Other Side ... £246: 10: 6

To Working Account –

But little of this Account paid, And as it was kept by Lt. Tilton he swore to it and its now in Mr. Alexanders hand.	To 358 Days work in felling Timber, Stockades & Linings for the Barracks and Fort. at 12d. ...	£17: 18: –	
	To 307 Days work in repairing the road and Building a bridge the Morass at 12d. ...	15: 7: –	
	To 10.000 Shingles bought of the Soldiers – .	12: : –	
This Article was and is Humbly Submitted.	To 80. Days Lt. Tilton Oversaw the Works at 5/ster. ...	23: : –	
			£ 68: 5:

Batteau Mens Accout.

About half paid as will appear by their List No. B.	To 28 Men of my Company that went to Oswego in Novr. & December last in Batteaux – at 40/	56: –: –	
Not yet paid	To 15. Batteaux Load from the German Flatts the latter End of winter at 24/ ℔ Man 2 to a Boat ..	36: –: –	
Paid	To 1 Batteau I Sent from Schenectada with my Winter Stores	6: –: –	
	To 3. Men that Brought Captn. McMullers baggage from Schenectada in April last by Col. Bradstreets order	9: –: –	
Not paid	To 6 Soldiers with 12 Horses loaded with Provisions for the Ship Carpenters that went with them to Onondaga at 12/ ℔ Day for a man & 2 Horses as ℔ Agreemt. with Col. Bradstreet ..	18: –: –	
			£125: –:

To Horses I bought of the Germans as I could get no Riders –

All paid but £12: to Andrew Weaver for which he has my Note – And were all Killd or taken by the Enemy March 27	To 1. pair of Jacob Staring	£23: –: –	
	1. Do. of Andrew Weaver	20: –: –	
	1. Do. of Phillip Fox	30: –: –	
	1 Do. of Conrod Franks	24: –: –	
	1. Ditto of Daniel Murphy	18: –: –	
			£115: –: –
		Tot –	£556: 15: 6.

N.B. To justify my Conduct in Employing my Men as riders I must referr to Genl. Shirleys Orders of Octr. 29. And would at this time Mention it that not one Single Load was got over the Carrying from the 22d. of Novr. 1755. to some time in April but what were rid by my Men & Horses that I bôt nor could I by any means get Riders and if I had not so done its very apparent what would have been the State of Oswego –

To Justify my Conduct in Employing them as Labourers I would refer to Genl. Shirleys order afresd. And Mr. Alexanders Letter of Octr. 17th. No. C. and would remark that I have performed the Service for just one Third therein promised

That it might appear I followd my orders in Employing them as Batteau men I must refer to Mr. Alexanders Letter Septr. 7th. No. D. and Genl. Shirleys Septr. 11th. E No. E –

That I did no more than was Desired and Expected of me in paying Riders & Battoe Men Must referr to Mr. Alexanders Letters No. F. G. H.

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To William Williams ——————————————— Cr

By 24. Dollars I chargd in my former Acct. left with with Lt. Tilton to pay Batteau Men...	£6 : 12 : –
By money Taken of the Indians for Rum Sold them upon Genl. Shirleys Order	10 : 4 : –
	£16 : 16 : –
By Ballance Due to Wm. Williams	539 : 19 : 6
	£ 556 : 15 : 6

Errors Excepted
p Wm. Williams

Albany ss. August 24th 1756 Then Captn. William Williams of his Majestys 51st Regiment Personally Appearing made Oath that the Services mentiond, and the Articles containd in this Acct. have been performed & procured at the rates herein & that he has paid or stands Answerable for the whole (except to Lt. Tilton) for which no Consideration has been made him Excepting the the two Articles of Credit as above

Jacob Ten Eyck Justa.

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And would further Observe that the 5 pair of Horses mentiond in this Acct. were bot to carry provisions for the Ship Carpenters that went to Oswego in the Winter by Land and that would have perishd for want after they got there if not on their March had I not bot them, and all that they Earned is containd in Squires, Woods, Bryants, Pipers, & Masters their Accts. on the Other side this Acct. before they were Killd —

Endorsed Captn. Wm. Williams his / Acct. from Novr. 22. / To 10th. June 1756

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Notes sent to Harkerman

	John Clapsaddle	£10: 1: -
	William Cunnigem	8. 12: -
	Jacob Edie	9: 6: 6
	George Frank	9: 3: -
	Fredrick Helmer	8: 5: 6
	Augustenus Hess	10: 7: 6
	Fredrick Ozendorph	11: 18: 6
	Hauns Pime	10: 10: -
pd	Rodolph Shoemaker	12: 16: -
	Thomas Shoemaker	10: 17: -
	Nicholas Storing	11: 9: -
	Michael Welsh	10 13: 6
pd	Nicholas Woolaven	10: 18: 6
	John Aney	7: 3: 6
	Peter Belinger	11: 5: 6
	Andries Fook	9: 3: -
	Adam Helmer	8: 3: 6
	Adam Hattmaker	7: 16: -
	Henry Harter	8: 11: -
	Henry Jacob	7: 13: -
	Hendrick Myer	9: 7: -
	Hauneacle Uxener	6: 4: -
	John Morey	5: 8: -
	Christophel Foaks	7 6: 6 ×
	Jacob Weaver	9: 3: 6
		£232: 2. 6

Fredrick Shoemaker	Disch.d	£ 4: 10: -	
John Atkins	×	£ 4: 1: -	
John Baker	×	2: 18: 6	
Samuel Harris	×	2: 0: 6	
Stephen Hatch	×	6: 6: -	
Samuel Masters	×	5: 4: -	
Nicholas Hilch		4: 19: -	
William Reynolds	×	-: 9: -	
Mathew Skuik		4: 1: -	
David Goff	×	-: 9: -	
		£30: 8: 0	

Notes sent to Fry

Jeory Eaker		£10: 11: 6
Leonard Helmer		8: 19: 6
William Soaks		9: 1: -
Hauns Martle		6: 15: -
George Snell		7: 10: 6
Adam Sternbury		11: 11: 6
Michael Frank		8: 7: -
Adam Hills		7: 9: -
Peter Soaks		5: 13: -
Rodolph Keller		8: 1: 6
Fredrick Bernkert		5: 17: -
Hauns Cloak		6: 7: 6
Charles Carlock		6: 4: -
Adam Nellis		6: 11: -
John Shoeman		7: 5: -
Adam Eaker		7: 3: 6
Henry Vox Tellar		18: -
		£124: 5: 6

Deserted

Hendrick Fritcher		2: 5: -
No 1 Horse		4: 1: -
John Saulsbury		3: 12: -
Coonrod Timberman		5: 17: -
John Van Alstine		7: 4: -
William Warmott		5: 17: -
Philip Belinger	pd	5: 8: -
Aaron Becker		4: 19: -
Nicholas Feeling		7: 4: -
Derick Petrau		4: 10: -
Marius Rausple		4: 19: -
John Read		5: 17: -
Mark Tamwood	pd	5: 17: -
Hauns Tamwood	pd	5: 17: -
Andries Weaver	pd	4: 1: -
Peter Carlock		2: 5: -
Henry Weaver	pd	3: 3: -
Jacob Feeling		7: 4: -
		£90: -: -

232: 2: 6
124: 5: 6
4: 10: -
30: 8: -
90: -: -
481: 6: -

Endorsed Col^o. Bradstreets Acc^t. | of riding 1st. Trip. | 1756 | N^o. A_

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Boston January 25th. 1757.

Sir,

I Acquainted You from New York, that I was to set out for Boston, in order to meet with the four New England Governments.— I arrived here on the 19th., but have had no formal meet:=ing with them on business, as the Connecticut People are not yet arrived; but I expect them here this Night or to morrow, except the Snow detains them on the Road, which is still falling, and has continued this forty Eight hours, without Intermission.

By the Conversations I have had with Governor Hopkins, from Rhode Island; and with Colonel Atkinson, from New Hampshire, Governor Wentworth not being able to attend himself; I flatter myself, I shall find little difficulty in settling with them: And I think, I have removed most of the difficulties, that were likely to have started here.— As to Con:=necticut, the nature of that Government is such, that it is impossible to Answer, for what they will do; but as Governor Fitch seems well dis:=posed, and has great Influence with them, I do not expect any difficulty from thence. As soon as the business is over, I shall have

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the honor of transmitting you an account of what is done.

But as there was a Ship just Sailing for London, I thought it would be agreable to You, to know what was going forward.

I Acquainted You in my last, that one of the Transports from Cork was arrived. On the 23^{d} I receiv'd Letters from Sir Charles Hardy dated the 16th, that the Sutherland Man of War, with two more of the Transports and the Store Ship for Hallifax, were arrived at the Hook; and that they expected the others every Hour. by them, I had the honor of Your Letter of October 2^{d}; I had received the Duplicate some time before.

I have the Pleasure to Acquaint You, that Mr Webb is quite recovered.

By Letters of the 17th, received last Night, from Major General Abercromby, he Acquaints me, that the Troops at Albany, Schenectady, on the Mohawk River, and the Garrisons in the Forts, are all in good Health.

And that, according to the Orders I left, he has by Slays, which is the cheapest Transportation we have, replaced what Provisions have been expended in the Forts, and that

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as long as Slaying lasts, he will from time to time, replace the Provisions, as the Gar:=risons Expend them.

Last Night, I had a Letter from Colonel Stanwix, dated Philadelphia, January 10th, by which I find, the Person he went in search of, had not Appeared, that he was Still in Search after him, privately; that the Recruits came in Slowly; and that there is a great desertion among those they have raised.

I expect Governor Lawrence and Cap:=tain Rouse, the first Southerly wind; for they have probably been some days off this Port, but cannot come in with this constant Snow. It is very material, we should have a Meeting.

On the 23d I received a Letter from Mr. West, of the Treasury, with great Com:=plaints, of the Money matters, of Major General Shirley and Sir William Pepperels Regiments; and directions to Enquire into them; particularly the first; and of the ir:=regular manner, in which Warrants had been granted.

I have taken great pains, in looking

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into the Affairs of those two Regiments, but am yet in no Shape, able to clear them. The demands for Money, for the 50th has made me a little more Conversant in them, than I am yet in the Affairs of the 51st.

From what appears, it seems to me, that Mr. Shirley has drawn large Sums on account of that Regiment, which he ought not to have done, without accounting for them; And so far as I can learn, no Officer with me, ever saw any Account of the raising of the Regiment; Nor does it appear to me, that the Pay Master has regularly Paid the Men, with the Money he did receive.— I hope those Gentlemen will be able, to clear all this Af=fair to You: but as You have both the Colonel of that Regiment, and the Pay Master, and several Officers of the Regiment with You, who can clear up those Affairs, much better than any Information, that it is in my Power to get here, I do most earnestly entreat, You will Examine into this Affair in London, where You can have it examined before Men, much abler to Settle such an Affair than I am; as it appears to me properly an Agents Affair.

As to Sir William Pepperels Regiment, I

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am not so much Master of their Affairs, as I have not, till very lately, had any demands for Money from them; but I shall soon know, all that can be known here: from the little I have seen, they seem to be as wrong in the manner of Paying the Men, but they have not been so free in the large drafts, from the Funds appropriated for the Regiment, as they have a large Ballance of non-Ef=fective Money.

I shall do every thing in my Power, to Clear up the Accounts of those Regiments, but I cannot find materials to proceed on, for the Officers seem all to be Ignorant of the Money Matters; and you have many more Officers belonging to them, than I have here.

As to the granting of Warrants, without Accounts, it is a practise I shall not fall into; but so far as it is possible, shall annex the Account itself, to every Warrant I grant.

I have the Honor to be with great Regard,

Sir

Your Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant.

Loudoun

The Right Hon.ble Henry Fox

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C.O.5:48

Boston February 8th 1757.

Sir,

As there is a Ship to Sail from hence to morrow morning, I take the opportunity of Acquainting You, that I have now finished the business here; the manner of it is,

The Governors & Commissioners very readily agreed, to the four thousand Men I Asked; but disputed among themselves, about the Quotas each were to furnish, and in that they came short five hundred; on which I sent for them, and after shewing them the Light that must appear in at home, when they had last Year raised Seven thousand, without any directions from the King, if they now could not find a method to raise four thousand, when Asked by a Servant of the King, in His name, for their own Protection.

I bid them likewise consider, what Effect it must have in Canada, when they were informed of a disunion among them; and I afterwards proposed the Numbers each should furnish, which are, from the Massachusetts Bay Eighteen hundred; from Connecticutt fourteen hundred, from Rhode Island

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four hundred and fifty; and from New Hamp:
=shire three hundred and Fifty: on which several of the Commissioners were obliged to consult their Assemblies, as to the addition I made to their Quotas, to make up the five hun:
=dred, above what they had agreed to, but as those Assemblies are all sitting, I have no doubt of being able to Acquaint You, as soon as I arrive at New York, that it is Settled.

I send You enclosed, a Copy of Captain Rogers Scout, by which you will see, the french have reinforced their Garrisons at Crown Point & Ticonderoga. Major General Abercromby Acquaints me, that Rogers thinks, there were fourteen of the french Indians amongst those killed; if that is true, it will carry all the others home, and they will find it very difficult, to bring them out again.

I have ordered, two hundred of the New Hampshire Men; into No. 4., to secure that Post, which is a material one.

I have settled all my Affairs with Governor Lawrence, and with Captain Rouse, who Commands the Ships at Hallifax, and

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shall be assisted to the utmost of his Power.

By a Letter from Sir Charles Hardy, of January 30th, I have an Account of three more of the Transports being arrived at New York; and that he has an Account, from the Master of a Vessel from Belfast, that on the 28th, he spoke with the Mermaid Transport, off Egg Harbour, all well; that soon after, he spoke with the Europa Transport, who was under Jury Masts, that he went on board her, and found all well; but that on the 4th or 5th of January, she had been taken by a French Frigate of 36 Guns, from Martinico, bound for Europe, who had ransomed her, and allowed her to proceed; that the Wind being Northerly, She was Steering for the River Delaware.

The returns from the recruiting Officers, have not reached me here, the roads are so bad. here we have got Fifty for the Royal Americans, but the 50th & 51st go on very Slowly, for want of Officers to Employ on that Service.

I wait impatiently for the Packet, in hopes of receiving by her, Orders for the next Campaign; and if we can raise the Men to

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compleat the Regiments, shall have every thing else ready to obey Your Commands to the ut=most of my Power.

I set out to morrow morning for New York, and from Thence to Philadelphia, but how the Journey is to be made out, I do not yet know, for from the immense Quantity of Snow that has fallen, almost ever since I came here, they tell me the roads are worse than ever They were known, but I shall make all the dispatch I can.

I have the honor to be with the great=est regard.

Sir,

Your Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant,
Loudoun

The Right Hon.ble Henry Fox.

Endorsed Boston Feb.ry 8th 1757. / Earl of Loudoun. / R. March 25th.

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1757
January 15th. }

Marched from Fort Edward with Lieut. Stark of my Company and Ensign Page of Capt. Richard Rogers's and fifty Men from the said Companies, and the same Evening arrived at Fort William Henry and there remained till the 17th. when being joined by Capt. Spikeman Lieut: Kennedy, Ensign Brewer and fourteen of Capt. Spikeman's Company, together with Ensign Rogers, and fourteen of Capt. Hobbs's Company, and Mr. Baker a Volunteer in His Majesty's 44th. Regiment of Foot, I set out and at Night encamped at the first Narrows on the East Side of the Lake. As some of the Detatchment had hurt themselves on the Ice, and could not proceed on the Scout, I sent so many back as reduced my Party to seventy four Men Officers included. The 18th. marched twelve Miles down Lake, and camped on the West Side. The 19th marched three Miles farther down the Lake, then took to the Land on our Snow Shoes, and marched N. by W. and encamped about eight Miles from the

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Lake. The 20th continued our Course till Night and encamped opposite to Lake Champlain about three Miles westward from it. The 21st marched East till we came on Lake Champlain about midway betwixt Crown Point and Tionderoga. As soon as we came to the Lake, discovered a Slay going from Tionderoga to Crown Point, on which I dispatched Lieut. Stark with a Party of twenty Men towards Crown Point to head the Slay, at the same Time I set out with another Party towards Tionderoga, leaving Capt. Spikeman with a Party in the Center. Lieut. Stark's Order was to march as far down as he could, while the Slay came against the Center Party, then push on the Ice to head 'em, whilst I with my Party designed to do the same on the Lake to prevent the Slays returning to Tionderoga; I soon after discovered about ten Slays more coming down the Lake, and immediately dispatched two Men to tell Lieut. Stark not to discover himself and let the first Slay pass, but before the Men could overtake him he had got on the Lake and was seen by the People in the Slays who turned and fled for Tionderoga. We pursued them and took three Slays seven

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Prisoners and six Horses; the others made their Escape to Tionderoga. We immediately examined the Prisoners seperately, and they informed us that two Hundred Canadiens, and forty five Indians just arrived at Ti:=onderoga, who were to be joined that Even:=ing or the next Morning by fifty Indians more from Crown Point, and that there were three Hundred and fifty regular Troops at Tionderoga, and six Hundred at Crown Point, that they expected in a short Time at Tionderoga a Number of Troops to at:=tack our Forts in the Spring, and had large Magazines of Provisions, and that their Canadiens and Indians were well equip:=ed and ready to march at a Moments Warning, from which Circumstance I con:=cluded they would turn out and pursue us. I then gave Orders that if we were attacked, those that had the Care of the Prisoners should kill them, and as the Day was wet we returned with all possible Expedition to our Fires at our last Encamp:=ment in Order to dry our Guns which we did effectually, and then marched keeping a good rear Guard. I with Lieut. Kennedy

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took the Front, Capt. Spikeman the Center, and Lieut. Stark the Rear. Ensigns Page and Rogers were between the Front and Rear; the Rear Guard being under the Command of Serjt. Walter. In this Manner we pro=ceeded and in crossing a Valley betwixt two very Steep Hills, which was about fifteen Rods wide, when the Front to the Number of ten or twelve had raised the Summit on the western Side a Volley of two Hun=dred Shot or there about was fired upon us from the Enemy who had formed them=selves into a half Moon to intercept and surround us which killed Lt. Kennedy and Mr. Gardiner a Voluntier, and wounded several of our Party and myself Slightly on the Head, which Fire we returned after killing our Prisoners, and then I ordered the whole to retreat to the opposite Ridge, where Lieut. Stark and Ensign Brewer had with ~~a Party~~ about forty Men made a Stand. The Enemy pursued us so close thro the Valley that they took some Prisoners, and killed Capt. Spikeman and several of our Men; but were beaten back again from the Bush Fire of Lieut. Stark's Party, that covered and

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secured our Retreat. They then sent out a flanking Party on our Right which Lieut Stark discovered, and called out to me to acquaint me of, upon which I ordered out a Party under Serjt Phillips to head, and prevent 'em, which he accordingly did by having the first Fire at, and killing several of them, the Rest retreating to their main Body. The Enemy soon after made an Attempt to push up to us, but having the Advantage of the Ground and good Shelter from Trees we obliged them a second Time to retreat as they could not stand our continual Fire upon them. They then sent out another Party to flank us, which I perceived and sent Ensign Rogers with twelve Men who repulsed and forced them back again to their own Ground, and afterwards ordered the same Party into the Rear to prevent any further Designs of this Kind from the Enemy; then formed ourselves for the Battle, taking my Station on the Right, Ensign Brewer on the Left, and Lieut: Stark and Mr Baker in the Center, the latter of which I desired to go into the Rear to assist

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Ensign Rogers, but he did not incline to leave his Post and soon after was killed. We continued a constant Fire on both Sides till Sunsett, the French often calling to us, and desiring us to accept of Quarters, promising that we should be treated with Humanity and used kindly, and at the same Time called to me by Name and threatened us that if we did not embrace their Offers as soon as the Party joined them from the Fort, which they ex=pected every Moment, they would cut us to Peices; but we absolutely refused to receive their proffered Mercy, and I told them that we had Men sufficient to repell any Force that could come against us, and that we should have it in our Power to cut them to Peices and scalp them. About Sun setting I received a slanting Wound in my Hand, thro my Wrist which disabled me from loading my Gun, on which I sent a Man to the Rest of my Officers desiring them not to be dis=couraged but maintain their Ground, which they did very gallantly till Daylight ceased, when both Sides left of Firing, upon which I consulted all my Officers who unanimously were of Opinion, that it was more prudent to

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carry off the wounded of our Party and take the Advantage of the Night to return Home:=ward, least the Enemy should send out a fresh Party upon us in the Morning, and then our Ammunition being almost ex:=pended we were obliged to pursue this Reso:=lution; so travelled all Night, and the next Morning dispatched Lieut. Stark with two Men to Fort William Henry to get Slays to carry the wounded Men thither, and about seven o' Clock the same Evening he got in, and in the Morning was met by a Party and one Slay at the first Narrows, and in the Evening got into Fort William Henry with forty five Effective and nine wounded Men. We imagined the Enemy con:=sisted of two Hundred and Fifty French and In:=dians, of which Number we suppose forty were killed beside the Prisoners we had taken, and that we wounded many of them.

A List of the killed and wounded and missing

1 Capt. Robert Rogers's Company.	2 Capt. Richd. Rogers's Compy.
Sergt. James Henry missing.	Ensign Page taken Prisoner
Hugh Morrison taken Prisoner.	Benjm. Woodall missing
Willm. Morrice missing.	David Kimball missing
Thos. Stinson killed.	Josh. Stevens killed

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3	4

Capt. Hobbs's Company

Serjt. Jonath: Howard
Tinners Comp.
Jno. Edmonds
Thos. Farmer
Emanuel la Portuga
} killed

Capt. Spikeman's Compy.

Himself killed
Lt. Kennedy
Thos. Brown
Robt. Avery
Saml. Fisk
} killed.

Wounded

Capt. Robt. Rogers in the Hand and Head

Capt. Robt. Rogers's Compy { Saml Martin badly in the Belly and Hip.
Thos. Burnside thro the Hand

Capt. Richd Rogers's Compy { David Page shot thro his Side.
Nathanl. Merrill in the Forehead
Jno. Shoot in the Head

Capt. Hobbs's Co. Serjt. Ebenr. Perry shot thro his Shoulder

Capt. Spikeman's Co. { Serjt. Moore slightly in the Arm
Jno Cahill in the Mouth.

Voluntiers

Mr. Baker of the 44th. Regt.
Mr. Gardner in my Compy.
} both killed.

Robt. Rogers

Island near Fort Edward
25th. Janry 1757.

A Copy

Endorsed Capt. Rogers's Scout / Janry the 15th / 1757
in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Febry 8th 1757.

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New York March 10th. 1757.

Sir,

I had the honor to receive Your Letters, of December 7th & 22d, on the road from Boston.

Allow me, in the first place, to wish You Joy, on this mark of His Majestys Favor, he has been pleased to Shew You.

Since the Letters I wrote from Boston, the Assembly of Massachusets, Rhode Island and Connecticut, have agreed to furnish the proportion I desired of them, to compleat the four thousand Men, I asked from the four New England Governments: New Hampshire lies at such a distance, I have not had any returns from them, but have not the least doubt of their Compliance.

I have already ordered, two hundred of the New Hampshire Men into No. 4, for the Security of that place, and all the others, are to be ready to March, by the 25th. of this Month.

Since my arrival here, this Province have agreed, to compleat their Men, to one thousand: And the Assembly of the Province of New Jersey, are to meet in a day or two, to receive my demand, of one thousand from them.

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In Consequence of His Majestys Orders, and the Information you give me, of a strong Squadron, and Eight thousand Men, being to be sent out, for carrying on vigorious and Offen=sive Measures; And that I could not be to early, in taking measures, to provide all re=quisites, for an Expedition of such Importance and Extent; And that two thousand of the said Forces, would be forthwith sent to Halli=fax; (As I had left Governor Lawrence at Boston, where I had Appointed him to meet me, to concert the Military Affairs of Nova Scotia, and who was to return, with Captain Rouse, to his Government.) I immediately dis=patched an Express to him, with the Copy of Your Letter to him, which You had enclosed to me; with Orders, to prepare for the reception of those two thousand Men; and to Acquaint him, with the Orders I had given, to throw in Provisions for them.

I likewise, have given him Orders, to retain & refitt the Transports in which those Troops come.

I at the same time, dispatched an Express; to Major General Abercromby, at Albany, directing him, to meet me at New York, to prepare

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for the Plan of the Campaign, in consequence, of the Orders received from You.

I have in a former Letter, Acquainted the Kings Ministers, that the Recruiting, had not gone on in the Winter, in the manner I had reason to expect, from the Success we had in the Summer; which has been princi=:paly owing, to the Country being drained, of that sort of Men who list; and in the Ameri=cans, to the want of Serjeants & Corporals, who were fit for Service. I further Acquainted them, with part of Major General O'Farels Regi=:ment, and the Additional Companies being arrived; with the purposes, I proposed to apply those Companies to. There Sail'd from Cork, Thirteen Transports, with a Store Ship for Halifax, under the Convoy, of the Sutherland and Ken=:nington.— There are arrived, in this Port, Eight Transports, with the Store Ship and the Suther=:land.— At Philadelphia, there are arrived three Transports, one of which was taken in her Passage, by the Zephire, a french Frigate of 36. Guns, who took out of her, two Officers, a Voluntier, their Servants and fifty nine Men; And as they were not able to carry off the remainder, obliged Captain Gneeling, to

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Subscribe a Capitulation, for himself and One hundred and forty Men, not to serve against the French, for One Year; but it appears, only One hundred and twenty four Men re=mained in the Ship.— Many particular Cir=cumstances, have attended this Affair, of which, only part is yet come to my knowledge; but I have enclosed such Affidavits, as are come to my hands, Captain Greeling being still at Philadelphia.

There is one of the Transports got into Virginia, from whom, I have yet no return of the numbers of Men: And it is reported, by a Captain of a Ship, who came from Antigua, that the other Transport, with the Troops, was got in there, some days before he left it.— The Kennington parted from the Fleet, in a Gale of Wind, and put into the Madeiras, as reported from there: She has since, put into Carolina, and is now on her way hither.— In this Situation of things, I have not yet been able, to make any certain return of the number of Men, which come in those Trans=ports.— The distribution I first proposed, to have made of the additional Companies, was to compleat Major General O'Farrels; to set three

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hundred Men aside, to compleat the Regiments in Nova Scotia; And to put the remainder, into the Royal American Regiment.

But upon receiving His Majestys Orders, to break the 50th & 51st Regiments, Command=ed by Major General Shirley, and Major General, Sir William Pepperel; I sent an Order to Governor Lawrence, to draft those two Regimts; now at Boston, and to carry them with him, under Convoy of Captain Rouse, to Halifax; then, to turn over the Serjeants, Corporals, drums, and what private Men might be out a re=cruiting, including the deserters, (that might not benefit, by the Regiment being broke) to the Royal American Regiment. And a third Order, to break the Regiments, and put the Officers on half Pay; And to in=form them, of His Majestys further Orders; by this means, I shall be able, to throw in the greatest part of three hundred Men, re=served for the Nova Scotia Regiments, into the Royal American Regiment, and save the Expence of Transporting those People back here.

I further directed Colonel Lawrence, that if He found any danger, of a Mutiny, in breaking those two Regiments, or in their

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being drafted, that he should send me an Ex:=press, with an Account of it; in which case, I should send Troops, to put that Order in Execution.— I took this precaution, as I durst not run any risk, of losing so many Men, in our present Situation.

I expect the return of my Express, if it arriv'd before he Sailed; or my Letters returned, if he was gone.

In order to Obey the Orders You have sent me, of preparing every thing necessary for the Campaign; I am under a necessity, of forming a Plan for it; for the Preparations must differ, according to the Plan, and what is absolutely necessary for one, would be useless for another.

I have formed this Plan, on the In:=formation You have given me, of His Majestys Intentions, of sending out Eight thousand Men, with a sufficient Squadron of Ships of War; And that the Plan I formerly proposed, in a great measure Coincides, with the intentions of His Majestys Ministers; from where I have no doubt, that the intentions are, an Attack on Quebec, by the River St. Lawrence: in which case, I propose for the Security of this Country,

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under the Command of Mr. Webb, first. for the defence of Fort William-Henry and Fort Edward, and the Security of the Magazines at Albany, the 35th Regiment, Commanded by Lieutenant General Otway; and a Battalion of the Royal Americans, with the Provincial Troops: And the four Independent Companies, on the Mohawk River: And I have provided Carriages for their Provisions, and I think, every thing necessary for their Support.

As soon as this Letter is finished, I go to Philadelphia, to meet with the Southern Governors, to concert a Plan for their Security, where I leave another Battalion of the Royal American Regiment, under the Command of Colonel Stanwix.

A Plan has been proposed to me, of an Attack from that Quarter, on Fort du Quesne; but at present, it does not appear to me, to be proper to Execute; but on my return from Philadelphia, You shall receive a full Account of my transactions there.

After the above destination, I hope, by the time we embark, the Troops will amount to five thousand Men, of which, I hope four thousand five hundred will be fitt for Service;

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which, joined with the Eight thousand to be sent out, will be sufficient. And in case of Accidents happening to those coming out, One thousand, which may be drawn from Nova Scotia, if the Situation of things, at that time, will permit, may be Sufficient for the Attack of Quebec, if the french are prevented, from throwing in supplies from Europe.

I gave immediate Orders, for throwing in Provisions into Halifax, and as I had provided Provisions before, for all the Troops here, I have given Orders, to Augment them in proportion, for those that are to come and they will be ready.

I have kept, and refitted, the Transports that came from Cork; I have ordered Governor Lawrence to do the same, with those that come to Halifax; And have applied to all the Governors, from Boston to Virginia, both inclusive, to lay on a general Embargo, in order to enable me to provide Transports; with which, Sir Charles Hardy complied, the day I made the Application for this Port; and has been so good, as to take the Management and direction, of hiring and fitting the Transports, which he understands much better than

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I do; and leaves me at more leisure, to push on other parts of the Service.— This Port, has already produced, above the half of the Ships wanted; but our distress lies, in providing Sailors and Water Casks; but I hope, we shall get the better of those difficulties.— This has obliged me, to apply to Captain Falking-ham of the Sutherland, to remain here, in order to assist, both in fitting the Transports, and securing the hands, which he has agreed to do; And I imagine, there can no harm happen from it, as his Orders were, to carry home the Virginia Trade, which cannot now go, till we are provided in Transports.

In the end of Your Letter, You have Acquainted me that words shall be inserted, in the Mutiny Act, to take away every doubt, about the right of Quartering extending to America.

When I writ on that Subject, I was but just arrived, and the Troops were mostly encamped: Since that, I have had disputes to Settle, all over the Continent, in settling the Winter Quarters for the Troops; from whence I find, that the manner of Quartering

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in England, as in Time of Peace, on Publick Houses only, will in no Shape answer the intent, in this Country; for here, there are few Publick Houses, and the most of them, Sell nothing but Spirits, where they possess only one room, in which they Sell the Liquor, where Men cannot be Quartered.

Whilst the War lasts, Necessity will justi:-fy exceeding that Rule; as Troops must be under Cover, in the Places where it is necessary to Post them, for the Security of the Country, and carrying on the Service; but as soon as a Peace comes, it will, by the English rule, be impossible, to Quarter any Number of Troops in this Country, without a new Regulation: And the only remedy, that occurs to me at present, is adopting the method of Quartering in Scot:-land, where, for the same reason, of there not being Publick Houses, sufficient for the reception of the Troops, they are by Law, Quartered on private Houses.

I must beg leave, to give You one In:-stance, of the Situation of Quarters here.- When I arrived at Albany, I do not believe it was possible, to have Quartered fifty Men on that Town, on all the Publick Houses in it; and

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by taking a full Survey of it. I found, That by Quartering on the private Houses, I can, without incommoding them, in the parts of their Houses, in which they live, Quarter fourteen hundred Men; and for a short time, in case of Necessity, I could Quarter two thousand. I have mentioned this, to shew You, what the Situation of all the Frontier places, in this Country, that are liable to Attacks, must be, if Quartering is literaly to be kept to, on Publick Houses only.

The last paragraph of Your Letter, relates to the non-effective Fund of the Regi=ments here. I should have chose, to have had it put on the same footing, that it is in Europe; I find it necessary for carrying on the Service, and I do assure You, there shall be no abuse of the Power.

I must now lay before You, a case, in which I must beg directions how to proceed: which is, that of the Carpenters employed last Year, in building Vessels &ca. at Oswego; by such of the Contracts made with them, as have come to my hands, they are to be paid, from the day they set out from their Houses, (many of whom, went from

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Boston and Rhode Island,) till they return, and are paid their Wages.

Most of these Men were taken Prisoners at Oswego, and are now in Canada, and their families starving at home; And as their Wages are high, will come to a large Sum of Money part of their Wages, were paid in the be=ginning, to their Families, by people employed by Mr. Shirley; such as Mr. Livingston here; Mr. Richmond in Rhode Island; and Mr. Erwine at Boston; but as those Gentlemens Accounts are much to large, and in a Situa=tion, that appears unfit for me to meddle with, I have desired they may be remitted home, to be cleared, where Mr. Alexander, Major General Shirleys Secretary, one of the Partners, in the profits that may arise from them, may be able to clear, what to me seems difficult in them; but in the mean time, those Mens families are in great distress; the Sum still due, will be large, as is the Clamour, on account of their distress. but as I am determined, that as far as it is in my Power, I will avoid, intermixing my Accounts with Mr. Shirleys, and as the Partial Payments that have been made to them, make part

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of those Accounts of Mr. Livingston &ca. I do not see, how I can interfere with them, with=out particular directions.

Before I leave this Subject, I must Acquaint You, that in consequence of a Letter, I received from Mr. West, when at Boston, of October 26th, with a Copy of the Pay Master Generals Memorial, and a Copy of the Sums drawn here, by Warrants of Mr. Shirley, on the Deputy Pay Masters, with directions to en=quire into those Warrants, and how to pro=ceed, in regard to those, drawn on Account of the Regiments; I called on Mr. Erwine, Major General Shirleys Son in Law, in whose name many of them were drawn; He has acquainted me, that there were two of those Warrants, which he received the Money for, and paid it into Mr. Shirley: and has given me Copies, of Mr. Shirleys Acquittances, for the Money received on them, Copies of which I send enclosed. He further informs me, that he believes, those Warrants, granted to Mr. Hutchin=son and Mr. Temple, the Generals Sons in Law, likewise, are of the same nature.

There is likewise, the Sum of four thousand Six hundred Sixty Six Pounds, thirteen

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Shillings, & four pence, granted by Warrant, to Lieutenant Bartman, for Recruits raised for the 50th Regiment, who never was employed in the Recruiting Service, and who paid that Money into Mr. Shirleys hands, as soon as he had received it; who gave him a receipt for it, a Copy of which, You have likewise enclosed.

I shall only mention, the two Warrants, drawn in Mr. Charles Apthorp's Name, together, amounting to twelve hundred and thirty Seven Pounds, as he has declared, he never received any Money on them, but at Mr. Shirleys de=sire, put his name on the back of them, as a thing of Course, but took no Acquit=tances from him; but, as he informed me, writ by the same Ship, which carried my Letter to Mr. West, of the 28th of January, to Acquaint Mr. Shirley, that as he knew, he had received no Money on those Warrants, nor that none was due to him, as he had never furnished any thing, on the Governments Account, he would retain as much Money of Mr. Shirley, in his hands, as should indemnify him, till Mr. Shirley should clear him, from any demand from the Government, on account of those Warrants.

I must likewise, Sollicit your favourable

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reception, of the demands will be made to You, from the several Governments concerned in the Expedition last Year, against Crown-Point; part of which, have been already transmitted to London, and the others will soon be sent.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant.

Loudoun.

The Right Honble John Pitt Esqr

Endorsed New York 10th March 1757 / Ed of Loudoun / Rx 10. April.

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Schedule of the Papers enclosed, and Re=ferred to in his Lordship's Letter To The Right Honble John Pitt Esqr. —

Dated at New York the 10th March 1757

Accott of Warrants drawn by General Shirley in favour of John Erving Junr. — from June 1755 to April 1756. —

Copy of Mr. Shirley's Receipts to Mr. John Erving Junr. June 1755 & 1756. —

Idem, of the Request of the Colony of Connecticut to Mr. G. Shirley relative to the Bounty granted by the Government of Pen=silvania for the use of the Forces employed in the Expedition to Crown Point. — July 22d 1755. —

Extract, of a Letter from Richard Haddon Commander of the Privateer to Messrs. Nathl. Marston, Jasper Farmar & Co. of New York, dated off Cape Corienties 29th Decemr. 1756. —

Copy, of Capt. Gmelin's Parole for himself, and 140. Men of Blackeney's & Bragg's, not to serve for a twelvemonth. 10th January 1757.

Idem, of the Affidavit of John Pell Com=mander of the Privateer Brigg Mary of New York. Philadelphia February 14th 1757.

Idem, of a Receipt from General Shirley

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to Lieutenant George Bartman of the 50th Regi:=ment for £ 4666, 13: 4 for Recruiting the non Commission Officers and Soldiers of said Regi:=ment. — Boston 2d March 1756. —

Endorsed Schedule — / Of Papers enclosed to the Right / Hon ble John Pitt Esqr / New York March 10 th 1757 / in the El of Loudoun's of the / 10th March 1757.

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Account of Warrants drawn by General Shirley in favour of John Erving Junr.

1755 June	a Warrant	on Mr. Mortier	for 10000, dollrs.	at 6sh/.	£3000.
July 4.	a ditto	on ditto	for 6666 2/3, do.	6/.	2000.
	a ditto	on ditto	for 6720. do.	6/.	2016
Septem. 25	a ditto	on ditto	for 6000, do.	6/.	1800
1756 April 21st.	a ditto	on ditto	for 4444 4/9 do.	6/.	1333:6:8
			Lawfull Money		£ 10,149: 6: 8

Endorsed Accott. of Warrants drawn by / Genl. Shirley, in favour of / John Erving Junr. / June 1755 to April 1756. / in the Ed. of Loudoun's / of the 10th March 1757. / 1

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Copy

Boston. June 1755. Whereas I have this Day drawn a Warrant upon Abraham Mortier Esqr. Paymaster for the Northern District, for four Hundred pounds Sterling, payable to Mr John Erving Junior, which he has endorsed over to Mr. Barlow Trecothick, this is hereby to discharge him from accompting in any Manner for said Sum, his Endorsement to the said Trecothick being only for Forms Sake

A Copy sign'd W Shirley.

Albany June 5th 1756. Whereas I have this Day drawn a Warrant on Abraham Mortier, Deputy Paymaster General of his Majesty's Forces in North America, payable to John Erving Junr. for Nine Hundred and Ninety Nine pounds, fifteen Shillings Sterling. I do hereby certifie that the said Warrant is applyed to my Use, and that the said Erving is no Way account:=able for the Money, it only being drawn in his Name for the Sake of Form.

A Copy signed W. Shirley.

Endorsed Copy of Mr. Shirleys Receipts / to Mr. John Erving Junior. / June 1755, & 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's of / the 10th March 1757. / 2

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Copy

Whereas the Government of Pensylvania did at the Request of His Excellency William Shirley Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay Grant Ten Thousand Pounds Currency of that Pro=vince to be laid out in Provisions for the Use of the Forces imployed in the Expedition to Crown point to be divided among the several provinces concerned in that Expedition in Pro=portion to the Number of Forces they respec=tively send. And Whereas the Colony of Connecticut is by that Adjustment equitably en=titled to ten two and fortieth Parts of the said Provisions. And Whereas the Artillery Stores to be employed in the said Expedition with the Charge of Transportation of them and the Train by Estimation will amount to the Like Sum of ten Thousand Pounds which is also to be divided in proportion to the Troops which each Province send for that Expedition, now forasmuch as the Troops sent by the Colony of Connecticut were by the said Colony supplyed with a Sufficiency of Provisions and will therefore have no Occasion for their Quota of the Provisions supplyed by Pensylvania, We

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do Request that his Excellency Governor Shirley will receive ten two and fortieth Parts of the said Pensylvania Provisions and apply the same towards the defraying the Quota of the Govern:=ment of Connecticut of the Expence of the Ar:=tillery Stores and Transportation of them and that the said Government of Connecticut have Credit for so much Advanced by them as the said ten two and fortieth Parts amount to (proper Charges being first deducted) provided that if the Connecticut Quota of the Charge of the said Stores and Carriages shall amount to more than the neat Proceeds of the said ten two and fortieth Parts of Provisions the Colony of Connecticut are to make up the Deficiency & if it shoud not amount to so much then the Overplus be repaid to whomsoever the Colony of Connecticut shall impower to receive the same.

Dated at Albany the 22d Day of July 1755.—

David Rowland

Elihu Lyman.

Accepted; and I promise to account to the Colony of Connecticut as they desire. Albany July 22d 1755.

William Shirley.

Copy.

Examd.

By George Wyllys. Secret.—

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Endorsed Copy. | Request of the Colony of | Connecticut to M. G. Shirley, relative | to the Bounty granted by the | Governm.t of Pensylvania, for the Use | of the Forces employ'd in the Ex:
=pedition to Crown point. – | Albany. July 22.d 1755. | in the E.l of Loudoun's of the | 10.th March 1757. | 3

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Extract of a Letter from Richard Haddon Commander of the Privateer to Mess.rs Nathaniel Marston, Jasper Farmar & Co. of New York. dated off Cape Corientes the 29th December 1756.—

I discover by private Letters from on board the French Brigantine (for the Pacquet was hove overboard, when She Struck) which I took of Missisippi River bound to Cape Francois, That the Cherakee and Shawanese Indians, have made a peace with the Governor of Missisippi in November last at a great Ex=pence in presents, but is thought by them vastly to the Advantage of their Colony.—

There is One Thousand Troops sent up this Summer to the Illinois Country, and what Troops are in New Orleans will march some time in February next, as there will be an=other Reinforcement in the Spring, to prevent which woud be very easy, and with a Body of 2, or Three Thousand Men might Reduce New Orleans with ease, as there is a great discontent among the Colonists, The Military Body excerciseing Authority at this time to which heretofore they were Estranged; They have had no news from France these three Months, and

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every thing is at a Golden Price with them; I can find nothing out what became of the Remainder of General Braddock's Army, notwith=standing I have an Officer, who has been 23. Years in the Country, and has been on Several Skirmishes in the Indian Nations; I hope to give some light to Our Governor how much Missisippi ought at this Conjuncture to be watched, or in a few Years, we shall find the Effect of such a Neglect; I have Letters on board which I pur=pose to keep, to Shew that what I here assert are real Facts, and safer in my hands than by this Conveyance, or would send them; I made this digression as I thought it a matter of Consequence to our Country, in the Service of which, I am ever ready to Sacrifize my All.—

I am &ca.—

Endorsed Extract of a Letter from Richard / Haddon Commr. of the | Privateer to Messrs. Nathl. / Marston, Jasper Farmar & Co. of New / York. date off. Cape Corientes / 29th. Decemr. 756.— / in the Ed. of Loudoun's of the / 10th. March 1757/4

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City of
Philadelphia }

Before Attwood Shute Esqr Mayor of the said City, came John Pell late Command=er of the Brigantine Mary of New York, late a Privateer mounting twelve Carriage and twelve Swivel Guns, with One Hundred Men; And being Sworn on the holy Evangelists, did aver, that on the Eighteenth day of November last, this Deponent sailed with the said Brigg from New York, on a Cruise against His Majesty's Enemies.

That on the twentieth day of De=cember last, about the Latitude of Bermudas, the said Brigg met with a French Man of War called the Zephyr of thirty Guns, and not being able to get clear of her, had the Misfortune to be taken.— That on the twenty-sixth day of December, this Deponent being Prisoner on board the said French Man of War about the Latitude 39. Longi=tude 48, She fell in with the Europa, an English Transport Ship, bound from Cork to New York, Commanded by Pendok Neal, hav=ing two hundred of His Majestys Troops on board, in great distress, having lost her

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Fore and main masts, five day before, and being so very leaky that they were forced, to keep Company constantly.— That the said Ship having Struck to the Man of War; Capt. Neal with three German Officers, came im=mediately on board her and the French Captain sent Eighty of this Deponents Company on board the said Transport Ship, and in Return took Fifty nine of the Soldiers, on board the Man of War.— That upon seeing the distressed Condition of the said Transport Ship, the Captain of the Man of War, be=ing resolved to get rid of her, as soon as possible, Offered the said Transport to Ran=som to the Captain of her, who refused to ransom her, Unless The French Captain wou'd furnish him, with Sails, Rope, twine and some Men, and also stay by him untill the Ship could be fitted, which the Man of War's Captain wou'd not Comply with; wanting to get home to France as soon as possible; And Captain Neal, and the German Officers declared they wou'd go as Prisoners to France, than return on board the said Ship, in the distress she was, which the said Cap=tain Neal told this Deponent was so great,

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that it was impossible to reach any part of the World, without the greatest good Provi=
=dence, and therefore he had bore down on the French Man of War in hopes of Releif; That upon the said Neal's refusal, to ransom the said Ship, the French Captain offer'd her to this Deponent for One Thousand Pounds Sterling, which this Deponent woud not agree to; But considering that if the said Ship was left in that Condition, by the French Man of War, who woud not, or coud not conveniently, take any more of the Soldiers on board, they who were left must all inevitably Perish; and that by Care, Industry and Good Providence there might be a Chance of Carrying the said Transport to America.— This Deponent offer'd five hundred Pounds Sterl g, for the Ransom of the said Ship, Reminding the French Captain of the Emin=
=ent Risque of life, and the little prospect of reaching any Port, especially as it was in the Winter and no Releif coud be pro=
=cured from the Man of War.

That the Captain of her agreed with this Deponent for the Ransom of the said Trans=
port Ship, for five hundred Pounds Sterling, for

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which this Deponent gave him bills of Ex:
=change, and thereupon put this Deponent in Possession of her, and left him under the greatest Anxiety.– for upon Examining the Ship this Deponent found She had Sprung a Leak in her Stern, and all her Provisions were forward out of the Lazereto, so that the first thing to be done, was to secure subsistance, that they might not perish for want, in case of a long Passage, which there was the greatest reason to fear.– That the Securing the Pro:
=visions so absolutely necessary, was disagreeable to the Soldiers, that they threatned to heave this Deponent Overboard, so that he began to be more apprehensive of Danger from the Sol:
=diers, than the Sea or Weather, That on the twenty Seventh day of December, which was the first day of this Deponents taking Command of the said Ship, which had been six days dismasted, Rolling in a Dreadfull man:
=ner.– This Deponent and Men went to work, to raise Jury Masts, and were obliged to make Yards Cross Trees, Top Mast, Caps, Sails, and Ropes, which work they finished, on the thirtieth day of December but were nevertheless Continually employed in mending the sails, which were

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frequently Split, being insufficient for the Voiage, That they had head Winds for the first Three weeks of this Deponents being in Com=mand, of the said Ship, and when it was found she was put into some better Order, the Soldiers thinking themselves out of Danger, became very uneasy, because they had not full allowance, and with one Voice wou'd Oblige this Deponent to go to the West Indies, which he was oblig'd to Promise them, tho' he did not intend it, if it cou'd be avoided, as the Soldiers, were not only wanted on the Con=tinent, but wou'd have been in more danger of being taken, and of dying in the West Indies, And therefore this Deponent, resolutely determined, not to bear away for the west Indies; which when the Soldiers Perceived, they began to be very Mutinous & Troublesome. That on the Seventh day of January, at four o'Clock in the morning, one of this Deponents Officers came to him, and told him the Sol=diers had Conspired, and Concluded to take the Ship from this Deponent, and his Com=pany on that morning. Whereupon this De=ponent and his men Loaded their Muskets, discovered the heads of the Conspirators, and

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Confined them, one after another, till they had secured all, and were obliged to keep under Arms, for some time being Continually threatned by them.— That on the twentieth day of January last, a Captain or Officer, called Captain Gamelion, of the said Soldiers on board, Struck this Deponent, and his Doctor, and Cut his Mate with a Poll Ax, and called up the Soldiers on the Quarter deck swearing he woud heave us all over board; All which, was without the least Provocation, from this Deponent or his Men, to his knowledge or belief.— That this Deponent thought it abso=lutely necessary to Secure and husband the Provisions and Stores, found in the said Ship, least after all his Endeavours to get in he shoud be drove of the Coast, by the Severity of the Winter, and forced to bear away to the West Indies, for want of Provisions, which husbandry was displeasing to the Soldiers, who whilst the ship was in Possession of the man of War, and as soon as the Captain and Of=ficers were gone on board of her, lived with=out Restraint, waisting the Provisions, and keeping Continually drunk, which this Deponent put a Stop to on his coming on board, and

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for this Reason, probably became so Mutinous, that if this Deponent had not kept a Strict guard and Command, the said Ship would never have arrived at this, nor any other Port in safety, as he verily believes; That after this Deponent found the Ill Disposition of the Soldiers, he lived all the Voiage under greater fear of his life from them than any other danger, and wou'd not for any Consideration undergo, such another Trial.- That on the thirty first day of January last this De=ponent brought the said Ship safe into the the River Delaware, with the Soldiers in good health, tho' in bad humour, And this De=ponent does verily beleive, the preservation of the said Ship, and of the lives of all the Soldiers brought in by her was owing Chiefly under Providence to the Care and Conduct of this Deponent, and his Resolution in Securing the Provisions and Stores in the said Ship from the Plunder and unlimited Consumption of the Soldiers at the Eminent danger of his own life.

John Pell.-

Sworn at Philadelphia

February 14th 1757-

Before me / Attwood Shute Mayor

Robert

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C.O.5:48

Robert Crannell late Lieutenant of the Privateer Brigg Mary, whereof Captain John Pell was Commander and James Ramsey late Master of the said Brigg made Oath, that they these Deponents, have read the Foregoing Affidavit of the said John Pell, and that the same is just and true to the best of these Deponents knowledge and Beleif. – The said Deponents being not only with him, when he was taken by the Zephyr Man of War, and also while he had the Command of the Transport Ship called the Europa Ransomed by the said John Pell, but also Witnesses to the Facts related and Deposed in the said Affidavit.

Robert Crannell.
James Ramsey.

Philadelphia
February 14th 1757. –

Sworn before me
Attwood Shute, Mayor.

A true Copy –
Richard Peters Secr'y

Endorsed Copy:/ Affidavit of John Pell late / Commander of, the Privateer / Brigg Mary of New York / Philadelphia Feb'ry 14th 1757. / in the Ed. of Lou=doun's of the / 10th March 1757. / 6

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New York 25th April 1757.

Sir,

On the 23d of March, I had the honor to receive by the Packet, the Duplicates of Your Letters of December 4th & 22d without any other Letters from the Ministers, except a Duplicate of Lord Barringtons, Secretary at War, Letter of December 22d, with Orders to reduce the 50th & 51st Regiments.

As the Plan of Operations is not ar=rived, nor any Account of the Port the Squa=dron & Succours are Order'd to Rendezvous at, come by the Packet, I am under a neces=sity of remaining here, with that part of the Troops, destin'd according to the General Plan I first sent, and the particular one I Acquainted You in my Letter of March 10th I should prepare for; but am in great hopes, of the Speedy Arrival of a Ship of War, with Orders & Instructions how to proceed.

And in the mean time, an Incident has happen'd, which Alarmed me; a French Privateer has appeared off this Port, which gave me apprehensions for the Packet, as that seems to be her Plan; And the loss of Letters

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C.O. 5:48

now, might have fatal Consequences.

As there were no Ships of War in this Port, at that time, but the Sutherland of 50 Guns, who has not Water to get out, I immediately applied to Sir Charles Hardy, with whose Assistance, I got one of the Privateers lying in the Port, and got Captain Falkingham to put one of his Lieutenants and Fifty Men on board her, with Fifty Soldiers and proper Officers, and sent her immediately out in Search of the Privateer, with directions, to take all possible care to Protect the Packet.

Altho' this Measure creates some Ex=pence, I thought myself entitled to do it, as the loss of the Letter coming by this Packet, may be of fatal Consequences to the whole Opera=tions of this Campaign, as every thing here must be at a Stand, till Orders arrive with the Plan You have Acquainted me is coming to be Executed by me.

Whilst I was at Philadelphia, the Enemy made an Attack on Fort William Henry, the Account of which I send You at large, in the Copies of three Letters, wrote from thence by Major Eyres, who Commanded in that Gar=rison, with the Intelligence he had from two

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Prisoners he took; and I cannot avoid observing, that the first Question the Officer asked, that was sent to Summons the Place, after several unsuccessfull Attempts made against it, was, whether it was Peace or War? which with them makes no difference in this Country, if they have a prospect of getting an ad=vantage: by the best Information I can get, they came from Montreal; when they set out, they consisted of two thousand and fifty Men; They lost in coming to Tienderoga, three hundred; They were four days in com=ing from thence to Fort William-Henry, on hard Snow; Whilst they lay before it, there fell a great deal of Sleet, which Thawed the Snow so as to make the Woods im=passable, and made all the Snow on the Lake, into what we here call Slush, or Snow and Water mixed: I think they could not get back in less than Six days, and had at most but two days Provision, in which case I think, they must have suf=fered extremeley before they could get back to Tienderoga, where they could not put them under Cover; So that I hope, this detach=ment will give little more trouble this Campaign.

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C.O.5:48

As the Garrison had been troubled with the Scurvy I had Order'd Lieut. Genl. Otways Regiment to relieve them, and Colonel Monro met the Account of the Attack being made on the Fort, on his March: he immediately left his Baggage, and made all possible dis=patch to Fort Edward, where he receiv'd the Account of their being retired.

Colonels Gage and Burton followed him directly, with the remains of the 44th & 48th Regiments, and the Highlanders were set in Motion from Schenectady. They all Marched without Tents, and lay in the Woods upon the Snow, making great Fires, and I do not find the Troops have Suffered: Colonel Gage met the Account of their being retired, at Saratoga, and returned from there with the reinforcements; and the Garrisons are relieved and come to Albany: There are in the Forts now, the 35th, and two hundred of the third Battalion of the Royal Americans, besides the Rangers; and I have order'd up the Inde=pendent Companies.

As Mr. Webb was Ill, and not able to set out when the first Accounts arrived, Major General Abercromby sent an Express to me at

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Philadelphia, and immediately set out to take the Command.

I cannot enough on this occasion, Com=mend every Officer, who had either the defense of the Forts or the Command of the Regiments, for the Alertness and Activity with which each behaved in their different Stations, as well as the behavior of the Men; Those in the Forts, determin'd to defend them to the last, and the Sick crauled out to the Ramparts; and those in the Reinforcements, Marched through the deep Snow, and lay in it without Tents, with the greatest Chearfulness.

We have likewise an Account, of a body of Seven or Eight hundred French and Canadians, who were at the same time to set out from Swegatchie, to fall in on the German Flatts or the Mohawk River, which has rais'd a great Alarm in that part of the Country, who have turned out all their Militia for their defence. We have on that River, at Schenectady, and up to the German Flatts, the Highland Regi=ment upwards of a thousand Men, about One hundred and Forty of the New York Regiment, and about that number of the Jersey Regiment, besides the Militia; And Major General Abercromby

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has moved up the Garrison of Schenectady to be ready for them, and thrown in the remains of the third Battalion of the Americans into Schenec=tady. — The Country thinks they will still come, but I do not expect them at present, but should not be sorry they did, as they have a long March, through an entire desert Country, cover'd with deep Snow, with Numbers, by all Accounts, much Inferior to Ours; So that I think they will not hurt us much, and will find it very difficult to get back.

I have order'd down, all the Men that are Ill of the Scurvy, into the Garrisons of this Neighbourhood, in Order to Supply them with Vegetables, which cures them presently.

And I have Order'd Sloops to be kept at Albany in readiness, to bring down the three Regiments from thence, as soon as I receive Orders for the Operations of the Campaign, which I can do immediately, with the great Freshes that are in the River at this Season of the Year; And as that is the case, I thought them safer there from desertion, than lying in this Neighbourhood; besides, they are at hand in case of a New Attack, till the Provincials can take the Field, for which the

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Ground is much to wet where the Snow is gone off: in the meantime I have order'd the New England Troops into Cantonments at Kinderhook and Claverick, the one 25. and the other 30. Miles below Albany, that they may be at hand; And I place Eight hundred of the New York Troops, between Albany and the Forts: The New Hampshire Men, who I order'd to Number 4, I have order'd to Fort Edward, when relieved by five hundred Men from Connecticutt, order'd there under Lieutenant Colonel Whiting; the Addition to the New Jersey Regiment, are to rendezvous at Albany, to be disposed of as occasion requires.

These are the present dispositions of the Troops above; and Provisions are going up daily, to add to the Stock I acquainted You in my last were there. And I have Pro=vided a hundred Carts with four Oxen each, and Fifty Waggons with two Horses each, for moving them at the Stages, where they go by Land.

The three Regiments here are Quartered; One in this Town, one at Amboy, and the other in the Villages round this; all ready to Embark.

The Transports taken up in this Port,

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are ready; and those from Boston are arrived, under the protection of the Province Sloop; those taken up at Philadelphia, are ready, but some of the Masters having applied to the Custom house, on account of the Provisions for the Troops which were bought in that Province, and I had order'd on board, were Stopped, but I have writ to the Governor to clear up that Point, and I now expect them in a day or two.

I was obliged to send an Arm'd Vessel with Sailors and Soldiers, to Enforce the Embargo, which will bring those Ships round.

From further Information, of the Situation of the Ground about Quebeck, I find it will be necessary, to carry some few Cattle to draw the Cannon & Ammunition to the Batteries; on which I have order'd some few more Transports to be taken up, which will likewise be ready in a few days.

As soon as I had dispatched my last Letter to You, I set out for Philadelphia, where I found Governor Dobbs, Lieutenant Governor Dinwiddie, Governor Sharp and Governor Denny: Enclosed You have the result of that Meeting, in which the destination of the Troops is Settled

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for the first out set, Subject to be altered, as Circumstances may vary and require.

The greatest difficulty we met with, was the finding a Fund, for Paying the Troops to be raised and kept up by Pensilvania: Their Assembly had proposed a Bill, the Governor thought he could not pass consistent with his Instructions from Mr. Pen; I took all possible pains with the leading Men of the Assembly, to accommodate this difference: The Council, that is Mr. Pen's Council of State, (for they make no part of the Legislature) represented them very strong, the Members of the Assembly answered their Objections, on which I consulted with Lieutenant Governor Dinwiddie, as a Man of great Experience in the Affairs of this Country, And as Our Opinions agreed, that in the present Situation of Affairs, and the Consequences that must happen from no Money being granted, it was proper, the Governor should for this time, pass the Bill as it was presented by the Assembly; he did it on a Letter from me, containing my reasons for advising that measure; a copy of which you have Enclosed.

I hope the Measure will be approved of

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by the Kings Ministers, Necessity was the cause of my interfering in the dispute, for had the Bill been rejected, the whole of their Troops would have disbanded immediately, and that Province laid Open to be a Prey to the Enemy, or I, have been obliged to have left more Troops for its defense, than could be spared from the other Plans of Operations for this Campaign.

In the Jerseys I have failed, in get:=ting the number of Men I proposed for the Service this Campaign; I asked for one thousand, but they will give but five hundred: I have had occasion to write many Letters on this Subject, and as I returned from Philadelphia, I had a Meeting with the As:=sembly, who came to me in a Body. The pretence they used, was want of Money to support them; I shewed them, that they were a very popular Province, and that the numbers I asked was not unreasonable, and that even if it was, that it might be remedied next Year: I shewed them likewise, that in the New England Governments, where, after they had agreed to the number in general asked from them, but differed in the proportion each

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were to furnish to make up that body, which was settled immediately among them, by the proportions I proposed for the present, all being Sensible of the Necessity of Unanimity in the Provinces, in the present Situation of of Affairs.

That as to their Poverty, the bill itself destroyed that Argument, as in it they raise those Men only to the 15th of November next, (which is a time probably, prior to the Enemys going into Winter Quar:=ters) and that, for that short Service, they have allowed twelve Pounds of their Cur:=rency County Money to each Voluntier, where:=as would they agree to an Impress from their Militia, where Voluntiers do not offer, as other Colonies have done, the Money they have provided, is more than sufficient to Maintain the Men I have asked from them, for carrying on the Publick Service.

There is another very bad Conse=quence attends the giving such large boun:=ties for Enlisting Men for a few Months, which is, the either preventing the raising recruits, for compleating the Troops sent for their protection from the Mother Country, (to

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the Expence of which they Pay no part) or of raising the Expence of recruiting so high, that the funds cannot afford it.

The real State of the refusal of the Jerseys, tho' they avoided mentioning it to me, is: They have very little Trade, but are supplied with Goods from hence and Phila:=delphia, and are almost wholy employed in Culture, where each Man lives in great Af:=fluence on his own Lands, and saves con:=siderably every Year, by which they are all Rich; and for that Reason, as they are in general much on a Footing, they will not agree to an Impress out of their Militia, which occasions their giving so large a Bounty.

The reason, I am told, for their re:=fusing the number, is, that they think the demand is more than their proportion with regard to New York; but in this they have varied from their own rule, for by that, they ought to have furnished 750 Men.

In my demand, I dealt with them as I did with the other Provinces; New York had furnished all last Year, the whole of the Carriages for the Army, even in the middle of their Harvest, and we have been

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obliged on several occasions, to March great bodies of their Militia; The Jerseys had furnished nothing, nor met with any part of harass=ment which War enevitably occasions in the Country where the Seat of it lies, nor are they likely to meet with any this Year; be=sides, the proportion they have always chose to furnish is below what they ought from their real number of People.

I had a dispute of the same nature in the New England Governments, who com=plained the Massachusetts Numbers as I pro=posed them when left to me, was below their proportion; but when I shewed them, that besides the Numbers the Massachusetts Bay Government furnished, to make up the number I demanded in the Kings name, for the Pub=lick Service, they had Eight hundred Men in their Pay, for the defense of their own Province, they all agreed I was in the right.

Altho' it is no part of my Office, I think it my duty, to give the Kings Servants all the Information in my Power, of the Situa=tion of Civil Affairs in this Country.- The Majority of the Jersey Assembly are composed of Quakers, and those chose by their Interest,

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and so far as I can see, in that Province and in Pensilvania, whilst that is the case; they will always oppose every measure of Government; and support that Independence on Government, which is deep rooted every where in this Country, but particularly so among that set of People; For altho' I have always been a great favorer of the Quakers, I am thoroughly convinced since I came to this Country, that they are very unfitt to be Employed in any Publick Employment. And in this Colony they are Judges, Justices of the Peace, and indeed Employed in every Office; as well as being Members of the Assembly.

In this Province of the Jerseys, many of the Justices persuade recruits, when brought before them, not to Attest; when they cannot prevent them, they grant Warrants against them for fictitious debts, and throw them into Jail; and the moment the Regiment or detachment Marches they let them out of Prison. In the Jail of Trentown alone, they have allowed at different times, Eight Prisoners committed for desertion to Escape, in so much that I have now five Actions, order'd to be carried on at the Kings Expence against the Justices of that Province.

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Whilst I am on the Subject of the Govern:
=ments here, it will be necessary to mention, that from their method of laying on Taxes in this Country, funds will be so Anticipated, that little Assistance will be got from them here:
=after, if the War continues; for the Taxes which the People Pay in this Country are really so Trifling, that they do not deserve the name. So that if some method is not found out of laying on a Tax, for the sup:
=port of a War in America, by a Brittish Act of Parliament, it appears to me, that You will continue to have no Assistance from them in Money, and will have very little Assist:
=ance in Men, if they are Wanted; but as this is a digression from my own business, I shall say no more on it.

When I was at Pensilvania, I found the French Neutrals there, had been very mutinous, and had threatned to leave the Women and Children, and go over & Join the French in the back Country: They sent me a Memorial in French setting forth their Grievances; I returned it, and said I could receive no Memorial from the Kings Subjects but in English, on which they had a General

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Meeting, at which they determined, they would give no Memorial but in French; and as I am informed, they came to this resolution, from looking on themselves entirely as French Subjects.

Captain Cotterell, who is Secretary for the Province of Nova Scotia, and is in this Country for the recovery of his Health, found among those Neutrals, one who had been a Spie of Colonel Cornwallis, and afterwards of Governor Lawrence, who he tells me had be=haved well, both in giving Accounts of what those People were doing, and in bringing them Intelligence of the Situation and Strength of the French Forts, and in particular of Beau=sejour: by this Man I learnt, that there were five principal leading Men among them, who stir up all the disturbance these People make in Pensilvania, and who persuade them to go and join the Enemy, and who prevent them from Submitting to any regulation made in the Country, and to allow their Children to be put out to Work.

On finding this to be the Case, I thought it necessary for me, to prevent as far as I possibly could, such a junction to the Enemy; On which I secured those

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[This note is pasted hereabouts in the original]

After giving Account of Disputes with New Jersey Assembly, who would only raise 500 Men, instead of the 1000. Ld. Loudoun de=manded; His Lordship adds

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five ringleaders, and put them on board Cap=tain Falkinghams Ship, the Sutherland, in order to his carrying them to England, to be disposed of as His Majestys Servants shall think proper: but I must inform You, that if they are turned loose, they will directly return, and continue to raise all this dis=turbance in their Power; therefore it appears to me, that the Safest way of keeping them, would be to Employ them as Sailors on board Ships of War.

Whilst I was at Philadelphia, ap=plication was made to me, from the Governors of Pensilvania, Maryland and Virginia, for Payment of Accounts due for the Campaign 1755; Major General Shirley has paid part of those Accounts, and those Stand as part of the disbursments in his time.

But they State the case thus, and I believe it is true; that Mr. Shirley sent Mr. Leak the Commissary of Stores, to Philadelphia, to make up and Pay those Accounts; but the notice for the People to come there, was not given soon enough for them to Assemble, from the great distance many of them lived at from Philadelphia, and others who had

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small Sums due to them, could not afford the Expence of travelling so far, So that great part of them remain unsatisfied.

As to the Accounts Mr. Shirley had paid, were not laid before me, in order to Check double demands for the same Services, and as I am very unwilling, to intermix my Accounts with Mr. Shirleys, I directed the Governors of each of those Provinces, to collect the demands from their different Provinces, and lay a State of the Case before me, and told them, that I should apply for Orders how to proceed on them; being aware, that as part of those Accounts must appear in Mr. Shirleys disbursments, if they likewise ap=peared in my Accounts without receiving Orders on them, it must have an appearance of a double Charge.

Whilst I am on the Subject of Affairs at Philadelphia, it is necessary to mention, that as the Assembly have Appointed Mr. Franklin to go to England, to represent their Grievances as they say, first to Mr. Pen, and if they do not obtain redress from him, to apply afterwards to the Kings Servants.

He will make application, for the Price

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of the Indented Servants Enlisted in the Kings Troops, which demand must seem very Extra=ordinary, as the Act of Parliament made last Year, provides a method of paying for them.

But the Case stands thus; The Act was not passed when I left England, and the Situation I found the Kings Affairs in, obliged me to go directly into the back parts of this Province as soon as I Landed; when the Act arrived, it was immediately Pub=lished and Copies sent every where.

Immediately after this, the Assembly of Pensilvania proposed a Bill, to raise ten thousand Pounds for the Kings use, which was understood to be, to Pay for the Indented Servants that should be listed; This Bill did not pass, as it was formed in a man=ner, the Governor did not think himself at Liberty from his Instructions to pass; at the same time the Assembly gave directions that every Man whose Servants were Enlisted, should desire the Officer who Enlisted him, to give him a Note of the Mans name and the day he was Enlisted; Some of them asked for this, but many others did not; And the whole Officers understood, from

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the Conversation of the People, that the Assembly were to Pay for the Servants, and no Charge to be made on the Regiments, and so likewise did the Masters of the Servants, from their Conversation and behavior.

By the great distance I was at first, in the back Country at the Forts, and then at Boston, equally distant from our recruiting Country, which is principaly in the back parts of Pensilvania and Maryland, those things did not come to my knowledge till my re=turn from Boston.

As soon as I arrived at Philadelphia, I Enquired of Mr. Franklin, if the Province did intend, as I found the Officers had been made believe, to Pay for the Indented Servants: he told me that they could not afford it, and had no such intention; and that the reason of their desiring the Acknowledgment of the Of=ficer that Enlisted them, was only to found their demand on the Government: I told him, that was already Order'd how that should be paid, and desired a List of the Servants, and the demand of the Charge for them: He told me the List was not made up but promised me a Copy, which I have not yet received; by

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this means, they have thrown all this affair into such Confusion, that it will be a great while before it can possibly be cleared; Whereas, had they followed the rules laid down by the Act of Parliament, the Officers would have been more punctual in the observance of the Orders, of not Enlisting any Servants, but such as were near out of their time.

As soon as I can obtain a List and their demand, I shall endeavor to settle the Point as far as I can; but I cannot help seeing, that this affair has been industriously managed, in order to make the Measure, of the Publick availing themselves of the Indented Ser=vants, as Expensive and disagreable as possible.

As to the People's Opinion of Paying for the Indented Servants, it will appear on what foundation they formed it, from a Para=graph of Mr. Franklins Letter to Mr. Thomas Pownal, of September 9th 1756, which Mr. Pownal left with me when he went to England; a Copy of which is herewith transmitted.

Whilst I am writing, Mr. Franklin has brought me, on April 25th, an unfinished List of the Indented Servants, amounting to a demand of £2272. 7. 1 Sterling, and on being asked, in

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the presence of Major Genl. Abercromby and Mr. Webb, if ever the Province proposed paying for the Servants, says, they never did; but when I Enquired, what Else they expected I was to apply the Ten Thousand Pounds they prepared a bill for, said, they meant that as a part of a General fund to be raised for the Pub:=lick Service, and did expect, I would apply it in the first place, to Pay for Indented Servants.

This Account unfinished, as he tells me it is as to Numbers, and unfilled up as it is in many Articles, contains all the Servants they have got notice of having been Enlisted, without any date of the Enlistment, from the time of Major General Braddocks Death, for the Regiments in Nova Scotia, and for Mr. Shirley and Sir William Pepperells Regiments, (for which last Regiments, not one Man has been Enlisted in that Country, since the Act passed;) as well as the 44th & 45th Regiments, and the other Regiments now here.

I complain'd to Mr. Franklin, of the manner the Assembly had taken, of following out this measure, in neither following the method prescribed by the Act of Parliament, by applying

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to the Justices, and producing the Indentures in the presence of the Officer, that we might see the Publick was not imposed on, in set-tling the Quota to be paid; And that if they had any just complaint, against the Recruiting Officers manner of proceeding, they did not apply to me for redress, whose duty it was to redress them if they had any just Complaint which he knows they never did, and that the Information I have now, has come of my Enquiry of him.

And that from what I can see by the Account, which I have just looked over with him, it is the Claim of every Man, that pleased to make a demand in general, with:out any proof that his Servant was Enlisted; for I find very few receipts have been asked or given, and no Officer called on, to know if he Enlisted the Servant; So that this af=fair must draw to a very great length before it can be settled, if ever it can; and this entirely owing to themselves, by Cajoling the Recruiting Officers, and making them be=lieve they were not to Pay for them, and by their making no manner of Application to me on the Subject.

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As to the Money they demand, that is entirely Political; for as it arises out of the non-effective fund, of which the Government avail themselves, it makes no difference to the Regiments.— The fund of the Royal Americans will answer to Pay the Charge against them; The Nova Scotia Regiments, I can say nothing with certainty of their funds, as their Accounts are making up and not yet come to my hands; The funds of the 44th & 48th, will not Answer, and if they are to be paid, it must be by warrants out of the Contingencies; And if they are to be paid for the Servants Enlisted into the 50th & 51st Regiments, that, and indeed the whole, comes directly out of the Publick Stock: but as this Country furnishes so little to their own defence, there does not appear to me, any great hurry in settling of this Affair.]

Lieutenant Governor Phipps, of the Massachusetts Bay, being dead, and the Governor of the Province not being here, the Administration of the Government is fallen to the Council, And by the Constitution of that Government, as I am informed, by Mr Hutchinson, the President has no more Power than any other Member;

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So that even the smallest transaction in that Government, must be done by a Majority of the Council; And I am further told, but this I am not so sure of, that fifteen of them must concurr.

This is unlucky at present, as busi=ness must go very heavily on in such a Constitution; And I may have occasion to have many Negotiations with that Province.

I am forced still to continue the Embargo, for I could not have Men to Navigate the Transports.– In relation to the Transports, I have directed the Agent sent from England, to Contract for them; by which means, the Expence will come directly to the Navy Board, and by that means save the Expence of remitting the Money here, to the Nation.

I am informed by the Contractors Agents, and I see by private Letters to other People, for I have no Accounts of it myself, that the Contractors are to send out by the Fleet, a large Sum in Specie, which is abso=lutely necessary they should, or it will be im=possible to find Money for bills from hence, to supply the Sum necessary to carry along

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with the Troops, for their Subsistence during the Expedition.

This arises first, from the great demand in providing all things necessary for the different parts of the Army for the Expedition; for the Troops to cover this part of the Country; and those detached to cover Pensilvania and South Carolina.

And likewise from the great Success the Privateers have had, in taking the French Merchant Ships, the Cargoes of which are transported to Europe, to answer the demands they used to have for Money in England, for Merchandizes brought from thence, which makes the demand for bills, much less than they otherwise would have been.

And likewise, by the combination of the Merchants, who carry on the Traffick of Money, higher than any other part of the World, which they are enabled to do, by the Specie having different values in each Province. And here it is necessary for me to receive directions, how to Act in a very particular Case — It arises from a Question, put to me by one of the Contractors Agents, whether I would allow Plugg'd Gold to be receiv'd, or not?

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I told him, as plugging of Gold was changing the value of Current Money, I looked on it as Coinage, and I am sure it is a fraud, And as such can give no countenance to it; but as the practise had gone so very far, and as I must probably be at a great distance during the Campaign I thought it not safe to give a positive Order, not to receive any plugged Gold, as in that case he might not have it in his Power, to supply the Pay Master with other Money, and by that means, the Service be disappointed, before I returned to apply a remedy to the Evil, but desired he would receive as little plugged Gold for his Bills as possible.

The case of Plugging is, when Gold does not in it's Weight answer the Market, the owner proposes to carry it to, he sends to the first Goldsmith, who Stamps into it a piece of Metal to give it the Weight de:=sired; the fineness of which, depends on the honesty of the Goldsmith.

The pretence they falsly use to Justify this, is, that there is no fraud in this when You receive Gold by Weight; for

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they say, that as some Pieces are above Weight, and others light, they clip as much of the Heavy, as makes up the light to the Standard, and add it to it.

I shall give you the trouble of but one instance of this, which I had from Mr. Hunter, one of the Agents. A doubloon here, that is just weight, passes for five Pounds twelve Shillings; if it turns the Scale in the least, it passes for five Pounds Sixteen Shillings; and the adding of Gold, of the value of one penny Sterling, will make this difference of value in the Market, So that suppose a Man receives for his Bill, One hundred doubloons of just Weight, by adding to them, Gold to the value of Eight Shillings and four pence, he receives neat proffit, by that Manufactury, Nineteen Pounds Eleven Shillings and Eight pence.

But the Evil does not not stop here, for now that the Merchants have Manufactured in this manner most of the Gold in this Country, they begin to refuse it in Payment; by which they will oblige the Publick to throw in a fresh Supply of unplugged Coin by which they will have a fresh Supply of

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Coin to Manufacture again.

In a former Letter, I Acquainted You of the Intelligence we had received, of a Person at Philadelphia, Enquiring for the Letter directed to Pierre Fidel, and the Steps taken to discover and apprehend him; that miscarried and we could never discover, who the Person was that made the Enquiry, or what is become of him.

By the Indian Intelligence from Sir William Johnson enclosed, You will see, that there are reports, of the People at the German Flatts Negotiating with the French; They are there at a great distance, and still more disobedient to Government, than those that live nearer; but as yet we have not been able to fix on any of them with certainty. Ensign Wendel, who is named there, came to me a few days before this Intelligence arrived, and threw up his half Pay rather than run the risk of being Employed again as an Officer: On this Intelligence, I sent immediately and secured him and his Papers, and was in hopes by him, both to have discovered what there was in that Correspondence, and likewise to have got some lights, into the Affairs mentioned

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in the intercepted Letters.

When he arrived, Sir Charles Hardy, Major General Abercromby and I, searched his Papers, but nothing appeared.— I then Acquainted him, of our having discover'd his Correspondence last Summer with the Enemy, from the German Flatts; and likewise of his Correspondence and Engagements the Year before.

He immediately Acquainted Us with the Letter he writ, which was to a Cousin of his, Ensign Schuyler, who was taken Prisoner at Oswego, telling him, that all his friends were well, and Employed building a Fort; told us of the Indian he gave it to, who was going to Canada from the Indians, which agrees with the Information; Said he was sorry if that gave Offense; That he writ the Letter at the Table, in the place where he Messed with several other Officers of the Regiment there.— As this seem'd to be an Imprudence, arising from Ignorance, and nothing further Appearing against him we have dismissed him.

The Indians from Canada, have made an Attack on Number 4, from where they have killed or carried off about Seven People, and burnt a Mill; This is entirely owing to the

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People of New Hampshire, in whose Province it is; They agreed with me, on the 7th of February, that two hundred of the Provincial Troops, to be furnished for the Publick Service, should March in a Fortnight to take possession of the little Fort there; and in the middle of April, when this happened, there was not one of them arrived: Indeed the Snow was extremely deep.— Lieutenant Colonel Whiting, of the Connecticut Troops, was then on his March with five hundred Men, to relieve the New Hampshire Men, who were order'd forward to Fort Edward; he is now there, but I have heard nothing of the New Hampshire Men as yet.— When Provincial Troops are out of Sight, they move very Slow, and the distances are so great, it is late before I can come at Intelligence of their Motions, or what retards them.

I shall have an Opportunity, of writing to You again immediately; I shall here finish this Letter; and am with the greatest Regard and Esteem,

Sir

Your Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant

Loudoun

The Right Honble William Pitt

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Schedule of the Papers enclosed & Referr'd to in His Lordships Letter to the Right Honble William Pitt Esqr. dated at New York The 25th April 1757.

Extract of a Letter from Benjamin Franklin Esqr. To Thomas Pownall Esqr. September 9th. 1756

Indian Intelligence from Sr. William Johnson March 4th 1757

Idem from ditto . . . . April 23d.

Idem from ditto . . . . do. 25th

Copy of the Minutes of a Meeting of the Southern Governors with the Earl of Loudoun at Philadelphia March 15th.

Idem of a Letter from the Earl of Loudoun to Govr. Denny.- Philadelphia March 21st.

Idem of a Letter from Monsr. Vaudreuil to Major Eyre.- Camp before Fort William Henry March 20th.

Idem of a Letter from Major Eyre to the Command.g Officer at Albany.- Fort William Henry March 20th.

Idem from ditto to the Commanding Officer of His His Majestys Troops on their March from Albany to Fort William Henry March 24th.

Idem from ditto, to the Earl of Loudoun Fort William Henry. March 26th

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Idem from ditto, to Major General Webb; Albany April 6th.

Idem of the declaration of Two French Prisoners taken the 23d. March at Fort William Henry

Idem of the Information of John Vidor and Guillaume Chasse, two French Prisoners- Fort William Henry March 25th.

Idem of a Letter from the Earl of Loudoun, to Governor Lyttleton - New York April 24th. -

Idem of a Letter from to Mr. delanne, bearing date at Quebeck the 26th October 1756

Endorsed Schedule of the Papers / Enclosed, of His Lordships / Letter of the 25th April 1757

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Extract of Letter from Benjamin Franklin Esqr. To The Hon: Thomas Pownall Esqr. Sept. 9th 1756. –

The Circular Letter You showed me the Draft of, explaining the particulars of what Assistance was required and expected from the Colonies to the King's Forces, has not been communicated to the Assembly; – Nevertheless, I have now the pleasure to tell You, that an Act yesterday passed the House, & I believe will receive the Governor's Agent, in which I procured the following Paragraph to be inserted, Vizt.

"And be it further enacted by the Authority "aforesaid, that Ten Thousand Pounds, part "of the Sixty Thousand pounds hereby given "and granted to the King's Use, be and "is hereby appropriated towards a General "Fund for the Common Service and Defence "of the Colonies, & subject to the Orders of "The Rt. Hon. John Earl of Loudoun, Commander "in Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in North Ameri:"ca, to be disposed of and paid in such Manner as he "shall think fit to direct for the said Service. –

I hope the Example will be followed by the other Colonies. –

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Copy

Fort Johnson. 4th March. 1757.

The Information of an Onondaga Indian (called by the English Corn Milk,) to Sir William Johnson.

Anent Stephens Interpreter.—

He said He had one Thing more to tell Sir William, which lay heavy on his Mind, but begged he wou'd not discover him. He said that the Germans of Burnetfield sent a Letter to the French Governor last Fall by an Oneida Indian named Gawiekie, by which they let him know the Hardships they labour under, and the ill Treatment they receive from the English, meaning the Troops, who past and repast that Way, as well as from those posted there;— That as they looked upon themselves to be in Danger as well as the Six Nations, they were determined to live and die by them, & therefore begged the Protection of the French.—

On the French Governors receiving said Letter, he told the Six Nation Deputies, that if the Germans were sincere, he wou'd be as fond of them, as of the Six Nations, but that he cou'd not depend upon them, unless

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he had further Assurance of their Good Inten=tions by another Letter, whereby he also desired they wou'd let him know their Numbers, and the Number of their Slaves. The Swegachie Indians spoke to the Oneidas about it, who declared they knew Nothing of any such Thing. They then desired the Oneidas to go to Burnets-field, & talk with the Germans on that Subject, and let them know, it wou'd be a good Opportunity to write now by them to the French Governor.

The Oneidas went accordingly to the German Flatts and first spoke to Joost Petrie about it, who said he knew Nothing of it, but desired them to go to Harkeman, which they did; he also said he knew no=thing of any such Thing. Then the Oneidas returned and told the Rest what they had done, upon which they all said it must be deferred untill Gawikie, the person who car=ried the Letter to Canada returned, then they wou'd find out who had sent said Letter by him, and their further Intentions.

After which Sir William spoke to an Oneida about this Letter from the Germans, he said he knew nothing of it, but had heard

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that Ensign Wendall had wrote a Letter by Gawikie to Canada.

A true Extract from the Records,
Examined by me
Peter Wraxall, Secry.

Extract from Capt. John Buttler's Letter (an Indian Officer resident amongst the Oneida Indians) to Sir William Johnson, bearing Date from Oneida the 21st March 1757.

'There was a Letter last Fall, sent
'to Canada to the French Governor, from the
'Great Flatts; the Indians say that Capt.
'Joost Petrie wrote it, to desire the French
'not to do them any hurt, as they were no
'more white people, but Oneidas, and that
'their Blood was mixed with the Indians.
'The Indian that carried this Letter was Gawikie.

'The French answered; "That they
"did not desire to hurt them, but that they
"must stand aside, as he was a Coming
"that Way early in the Spring, and
"that he wou'd give them Lands to live on."

He told our Indians, that the Germans in the old Country were all in the French Interest.

A true Extract from the said Original
Letter, examined by me / Peter Wraxall Secry.

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Extract from Capt. Thomas Butler's Letter to Sir William Johnson, bearing Date from Oneida 7th April. 1757.–

'I have often said, and do Yet, that
'if any Troubles shou'd arise between the Six
'Nations & Us it will in great Manner, or
'entirely, be owing to bad ignorant people of
'a different Extraction from the English, that
'make themselves too busy in telling idle Stories.
'I fear we have too many of those, who
'speak the Indian Tongue, more or less, and
'dont consider the Consequence of saying, "We
"are Dutch and They are English; That they
"had a Fight together last Winter in Schenectady.
"The Dutch there beat the English, the Quarrel
"was because they wou'd not allow the English
"to be Masters and take from them all they
"had, that the English wanted to drive them
"about like Dogs."

'This Story I imagine, proceeded from
'a small Dispute between the Battoe Men and
Soldiers last Fall.– "And the English are
"very severe on the People at Albany, taking
"from them what they please; breaking open
"their Doors when they will; had forced Capt.
"Harkemar out of his House."

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'That such has been said, appears to
'me too true, for that the Indians cou'd
'not invent the like Stories. I think it
'will be very proper to acquaint You what
'passed between Lieut. Schuyler and a Young
'Onondaga Indian as they were out Shoot-
-ing together; The Indian knowing him to
'be of Dutch Extract began to speak Words
'reflecting on the English, and told Schuyler,
"it wou'd be good that the Albany People or
"Dutch, with the Indians shou'd join & drive
"the English out of the Country." Schuyler
'says he was surprised to hear the Fellow
'talk in that Manner, and turning to him
'said, we are all one People & under one King.

A true Extract from the said original
Letter Examined by me

Peter Wraxall, Secry.

Endorsed Copy. | Indian Intelligence from | Sir William Johnson. - | Fort Johnson March 4th. 1757. | in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of April | 25th. 1757. | 2

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Fort Johnson 23d April 1757. A M:

The Information of a Cayouga Sachem, who, was sent by His Nation to Sir William Johnson upon Business.

As the only Sachem of Ours who was in Canada has given me from his own Mouth, what Pass'd between the 6. Nation deputies, and the Governor of Montreal, I shall give You the Heads of it. All the Particulars you will know when the Result of the approach=ing Meeting at Onondaga is over and brought down to You.

The said Governor told the Six Nations that as soon as the Season of the Year would Permitt, the French was determin'd to come to Oswego, go from thence to the Oneida carrying Place, and so down Stream to fight the English, and gave the Six Nations notice to stand out of the Way, and not offer to give them any Obstructions, he also told our People to warn the Germans at the great Flatts to stand on one side and keep clear of their Army, and to tell the Mohawks the same, And that he had often Warn'd them on this Head, and he would do it once More, and if they would not Listen to him they must take the Consequence;

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Upon which he was answer'd by an Onondaga Sachem to this Purpose.

That when he destroyed Oswego, he told the Five Nations that now he had cleard their Country of the English, they might hunt & Live in Peace without hindrance or Fear, and desired them to live in Peace and Friendship with all Foreign Nations, and agree to hunt in each others Country. If therefore he should bring an Army to Oswego, and Attempt the Scheme he mention'd, they should believe what they had often suspected, that the French in=tended to destroy the 6 Nations, and that they should Look upon his Attempt as a declara=tion of War against the 6 Nations. They desired the French Governor to Committ no Hostili=ties by way of Oswego, and that if he want=ed to Attack the English, he might do it by way of Lake George.

Upon this the Governor of Montreal said, that he was not Master to direct what should be done; but he would send their words to the great Man at Quebeck, who he did not doubt would favourably Listen to what they had said, and that he believed they might make themselves easy on what he had said—

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Accordingly a large Belt of Black Wampum which they had given hereupon was sent to Quebeck.

The Cayouga Sachem then added, There=fore Brother, as we have not yet received an answer upon this Belt, I do not believe there is any Truth in the report You heard of a French Army being at Oswego Falls.

Sir William observed to this Sachem, that if the French had Paid any regard to their Belt mention'd in his Information, they might long ago had an Answer to it, and that the French Perhaps Intended to give them an answer when their Army came to Oswego.

To this the Indian made no answer.

A True Extract from the Records

Peter Wraxall Secr.y

Endorsed Copy-/ Indian Intelligence from / Sir William Johnson / Fort Johnson Apr. 23d. 1757. in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of April / 25th. 1757 / 3.

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Copy.

Fort Johnson 28th. April 1757.

Canajageya (Alias the Old Kettle) a Sachem of Onondaga, who arrived here this day, gave Sir William Johnson, the following Information. –

Arent Stephens Interpreter.

"That he left Onondaga 4 days ago, that two days before, two Indians arrived there, Originally Onondagas, but who have lived many Years at Niagara, and were with the French at the taking of Oswego, and went with the Army back to Canada, where they have remained ever since. – These Indians on their arrival at Onondaga were called upon by the Sachems, of whom this Informant was one, to know if they had any News to tell: who said that they left Canada a few days ago in Company with an Onondaga Indian named Gawickie, and some Indians belonging to Swegachie who are sent by the French Governor, to the Germans at the German Flatts, to enquire of the said Germans, whether they were determined to be as one Flesh, and One Body with the 5. Nations or not, that he might know in what light to consider them –

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These two Indians further told us, that just before they left Canada, the Cagnawagas told them that the Governor of Canada had Acquainted them that he could not Certainly say, how soon in the Spring, it would be before he marched his Army against the English, the reason is this (said he) that I wait for Intelligence from my People at Ohio, before I shall sett off and I think it will be to Lake George.— That the Canawagas further told these Indians, that there were 100, of their People, and 40. Skowendadees, ready and waiting to join the French Army.—

A true Copy,

from the Records.

Peter Wraxall Secry.

Fort

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Copy.

Fort Johnson 28th April 1757... P.M.

The Information of the Chief Man of the Nanticoke, and the head Man of the Con=
=naye Indians, who arrived here this Afternoon.

Present.—

Sir William Johnson.

Peter Wraxall Secry.

The Chief Man of the Nanticokes spoke good english, and gave the following Intelligence.—

That Eight days after Pazinosa a Chief of the Shawanese left home to come here, his Youngest Son arrived at Otsiningo from Fort du Quesne. (which by their Computa=
=tion is 24 days ago.) which he left 14 days before.— he brought an Account, that at Fort du Quesne, he saw 400. Indians from the Westward, and that at the next Fort to it were 300. More.— That he saw the 400. set off towards Potomack, with a number of French and 3. Officers.— That the 300. were preparing to set off for Niagara, and were to go from thence to Oswego, were they were to be joined by another Body from Canada; and that when these two Bodies met, they were to proceed downwards to the Mohawk River, and

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not Stop till they came to Albany.— And that the said Indians at Fort du Quesne told Pazinosa's Son to warn all his Nation and Friend Indians to avoid coming to Sir William Johnsons lest they might be taken for, and treated as Enemies, by the French and In:=dians, who were coming down that way.—

The said Indian then said,

Brother,

According to the Old Covenant between us, which ever party hears any News, that is of Consequence to the Other, they are to Communicate it, which we have now done, and shall Con:=tinue to do the same, as we are determined to stand by Our Bretheren the English

A true Copy.—

from the Records.—

Peter Wraxall Secry.—

Endorsed Copy.—| Indian Intelligence from | Sir William Johnson. | Fort Johnson April 28th 1757.| in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of April | 25th 1757. | 4

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Copy.

Minutes taken at a Meeting of the Governors of North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, & Pensylvania, with the Earl of Loudoun. Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America, began at Philadelphia, March 15th & Continued by several Adjourn=ments to March 1757.—

The Meeting having been informed by the Earl of Loudoun, that there was a plan, approved by His Majesty, of em=ploying the greatest part of the Troops, this Campaign, to the Northward, & that he had invited them to this Meeting, in Order to concert, in Conjunction with them, a plan for the Defence of the Southern Provinces whilst the other Operations were Carrying on;

His Lordship further acquainted them, that he was willing to leave, for the Defence of the Southern Provinces, One Battalion to be compleated to One Thousand Men & the three Independent Companies, in South Carolina; of one Hundred Men each, which may amount to two Hundred Effective Men.

And that he thought it necessary, for the Security of the Whole, that the Several

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provinces shou'd furnish by the following Proportion,

	Men
Pensylvania	1400.
Maryland	500.
Virginia	1000.
North Carolina	400.
South Carolina	500.
Which joined to the King's Troops	1200.
Make in whole	5000.

And the several Governors do engage to use their best Endeavours with their several provinces to raise & support the above Num:=ber to act in Conjunction with the Regular Forces, and under the Command of His Majesty's General, or the Officer properly au:=thorised, according to His Majesty's Regulation.

The Meeting taking into Consideration the Situation of the Several provinces, & the Intelligence received from different parts, it ap:=pears to them that there is Danger of the Enemy's making an Attack on the province of South Carolina, either by Sea from St. Domingo, or from the Albama Fort, in the Creek Indians, on the Head of the Mobile.

For which Reason they have agreed that there ought to be 2000 Men employed in the Defence of that valuable province of South

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Carolina, and to secure Georgia, & that they shou'd be composed as follows,

	Men
Two Companies of Regular Troops	500.
Three Independent Companies	200.
Provincial Troops raised by the province of South Carolina..	500
Provincial Troops from North Carolina	200.
Provincial Troops from Virginia	400.
Provincial Troops from Pensylvania	200.
Making in Whole	2000.

That the said Troops shou'd be put under the Command of Lieut. Col^o Bouquet & transported to Charles Town in South Carolina, as soon as possible;

The Regular Troops & the 200 Provincial Troops of Pensylvania by Sea from hence; The 400 Provincial Troops of Virginia by Sea from ; And the 200 Troops from North Carolina to march by Land.

The Earl of Loudoun, on the part of the Crown, agrees that he will, at the King's Expence, supply the 200 Men from North Carolina, the 400 Men from Virginia, and the 200 from Pensylvania with the King's Pro=visions, from the Time they arrive in South Carolina, during the Time he keeps them there: But that he expects the several provinces from

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whence they are detatched, shou'd transport them there, at the Expence of the province from where they are sent.-

And to prevent any Mistake hereafter arising in Relation to any Demand that may be made, It is agreed that the several Pro=vinces shall Maintain the remainder of the Troops raised by them, for the Service, in every Article: as on this Occasion they are intirely employed, in the Defence & for the Security of their respective Provinces.

And it is further agreed, that we the Governors shall in our respective Pro=vinces, take particular Care, to form such Regulations, and to see them properly ex=ecuted, that in all Time coming, Car=riages for Transporting the Baggage of His Majesty's Troops, shall be prepared at stated reasonable Rates, And that all the Troops of whatever Denomination, either passing through our Provinces, or while in fixed Quarters therein, shall, in Time of Peace, be properly quarter'd, and in Time of War, what ever Number of Troops the Com=mander in Chief may judge necessary for Defence, or Carrying on the General Service,

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shall be quarter'd according to Custom or the Exigences of the Service.

The above Resolutions are agreed to, by the several Governours, & sign'd by us in the presence of the Earl of Loudoun, His Majesty's Commander in Chief —

Arthur Dobbs.
William Denny.
Robt. Dinwiddie
Hor^o. Sharpe

Loudoun. —

Endorsed Copy. / Minutes of a Meeting of / the Southern Governors with / the Earl of Loudoun. — / Philadelphia, March 15th. 1757. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of April / 25th. 1757. / 5.

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Philadelphia March 21st. 1757.

Sir

As I find the Publick Service in the Province entirely at a Stand, arising from a difference between You and the Assembly, in relation to a Bill now depending, to raise money for the Publick Service, which you seem to apprehend You cannot Pass Con=sistant with Your Instructions and that during the Continuance of this dispute, the Troops raised by the Province, are in great danger of disbanding for want of Pay, there being now Six Months Pay due to them, on Account of which, Part of the Troops have Refused to march till they are Paid, altho' they have received Orders to reinforce the Garrison of Fort Augusta, from whence, there is Intelligence of the Enemys making preparations to Attack it,

And as it is absolutely Necessary for the Security and defence of the Southern Province, that this Province should Furnish and keep up their Quota of Forces

And as the Present Situation of Affairs and the Season of the Year, will not allow of time for new Moddeling another

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Bill, and as the Consequence of the Troops dis=banding, and money not being raised for the Current Service of this Year, must oc=casion the Province being exposed, to become a prey to the Enemy, and oblige the Kings Servants to Leave a greater number of the regular Troops for its defence, than, can be spared from the Executing the other Plans of Operations which His Majesty has aproved of for the ensuing Campaign; and by which they might probably be defeated, I must in this Situation of affairs, desire of You to Wave Your Instructions, for the Present, and Pass this Bill; that money may be raised, and those apparent Evils Prevented for the Present.

I do most sincerely wish that such measures may be taken at Home before next Winter, as may Prevent any difficulties of this nature ever happening again, as their Consequences are very bad, and may Prove Fatal; I am

Sir &ca.

To The Hon.ble Governor Denny—

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / The Earl of Loudoun / To / Governor Denny / Philadelphia March 21st. / 1757. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of April / 25th. / 6

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Copy — Au Camp devant Le Fort George,
le 20e Mars 1757.—

Au Commandant
du Fort George.—

Monsieur,

Je vous dépeche Monsieur Le Chevr. Le Merciere, Commandant de l'Artillerie, qui vous faira part de mes Resolutions. Vous pouvez donner entiere Croyance á ce qu'il aura l'hon=neur de vous dire de ma Part,

J'ai celui d'être
Monsieur
Votre trés humble et tres
Obeissant Serviteur,
Rigaud de Vaudreuil
Commandt. l'Armée Françoise
Sur le Lac St. Sacrement.

The Substance of the Message sent by Le Chevr. Merciere, Commanding Officer of the Artillery, by Order of Monsieur Vaudreuil, Com=mander of the French Army to the Com=mandant of Fort William Henry, the 20th March 1757.—

Monsieur Merciere, being introduced into the Fort blindfold, and brought into the Com=manding Officer's Apartment, where all, or most

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of the Officers of the Garrison were, after a few Civilities past, deliver'd his Message from the Commander of the French Army, the Substance whereof is as follows.

That Mons.r de Vaudreuil Governor of the Trois Rivieres, Commander of the French Army on Lac St. Sacrament, and Brother to the Governor of Canada had Commanded him to acquaint the Commandant with his Resolution; that he was averse to the Carry=ing on a War, in these parts, & regretted much the Miseries that attended it, but that as we had made Incroachments on His most Christian Majesty's Territories, & built Forts on them, to prevent the Miseries attending the Carrying on War, & to save the Effusion of Blood, desired that he might, in a peaceable Manner, deliver up this Fort, & that the Garrison shou'd have Liberty to march out with all the Honours of War, the Officers be permitted to Carry their most valuable Effects with them, that some Things might only be left by the Officers to please & gratify the Indians, & that they need not be under any Apprehensions of Mischief from the Savages, for that they had a sufficient Number of

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Regulars to protect the Garrison against any Sort of Violence, that might be offer'd to them, & that they shou'd be Conducted to any place they desired; but he was par=ticularly directed by His General to observe to the Commandant, that not agreeing to these Terms, & determining to defend the Fort might be attended with Circumstances very fatal & Calamitous to the Garrison, & which in Case of their Succeeding in the General Assault, that they were then im=mediately preparing to put in Execution that the Garrison might very probably bring Calamities upon themselves, that wou'd be unavoidable, considering what Sort of people composed part of their Army, & that, in Case of Success, however much they might be inclinable to Lenity & Compassion, the Cruelties of the Savages cou'd not altogether be prevented.

There is one Circumstance worth Notice, that Monsr. Merciere, in his Mes=sage, observed, that a fresh Reinforcement had joined the Army, which more im=mediately determined the General to storm the Garrison, which does not appear by

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the Deposition of the prisoners, therefore was no more than a Finesse, as they had ac:=tually made two Attempts before.

Endorsed Copy. | Letter from Monsr. | Vaudreuil to Major Eyre. | Camp before Ft. Wm. Henry| March 20th 1757.— | in the E. of Loudoun's| Letter of April | 25th 1757. | 7

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Copy.

Sir,

Yesterday morning about two o'clock, a Noise of Axes were heard at some distance from this Fort, and a light was seen upon the Lake. This gave the Alarm, some time after this The Enemys approach was heard very distinctly upon the Ice, and this was followed by an Attempt, to set on Fire our Largest Sloop, as Also the most remote Bat=teaus lying on the side of the Lake; This drew upon them a Smart Fire, both of our Artillery and Small Arms, which pre=vented their design; other Efforts were made to Accomplish it, before daylight appeared, in which they failed likewise.—

After this the Enemy retired, and a few men were sent to see, what the Enemy had been doing, who found two or three Scaling Ladders, and several Small Imple=ments for setting the Vessells on Fire, one of which I send down; At this time we Scarsely knew any thing of the Number of the Enemy; but the Ladders being found, shewed Plainly this was more than a Scouting Party, and soon shewed them in

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great numbers on the Lake, and on each side of it in the Woods.– a very large Fire was seen on the East side of the Lake about two Miles down, and by degrees this ap:=pearence grew Formidable.

Early in the morning we got every thing in Readiness, to Provide against an Assault, as the Enemy on each side of us appeared in great Bodys. There was a very heavy & Continual discharge of small Arms kept up by the Enemy, from behind some Rocks about 500. Yards, on the Right of the Fort, which seem'd Cheifly Intended to Cover the Rear, who went from time to time to set fire to the Batteaus, and which burned but Slowly.– We had five or Six Men Slightly Wounded on the Ramparts; We Returned their fire both with Shott and Shells, whenever we discovered many of them together, which I beleive had good Effect, as we perceived them carrying off several Men– The firing on the Enemys side Ceased to:=ward Sun Set, and they seemed to file off, as going homewards, but Returned after it was dark, and about midnight renewed their Attack, and under Cover of darkness

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set fire to One end of the line of Bat:-teaus, which soon consumed them entirely; At or about the same time they set Fire to our Pile of Chord Wood, and made Several Attempts to set fire to the large Sloop, but were beat off by our Continual Fire.

The Enemy Retired this morning at some distance, and a party went out and Extinguished the fire of the Pile of Wood.

About ten o'Clock this morning the Enemy crossed the Lake, seemingly as if they were going off; about two miles from the Fort, they then appeared very numerous to us, and no sooner the Principal Body of them had crossed the West side of the Lake, than we espied a Small Party coming towards the Fort with a Red Flag; I sent an Officer with a Flag to meet them, and Received a Letter from Monsr. Rigaud de Vaudreuil Commander of the French Forces by Monsr. Mollner principal Officer of the Artillery, the Purport of which was to Offer the Garrison honorable Terms, and to march out with the honours of War, otherwise that as he had received a Succour lately, he was

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determined to Assault the Fort by Escalade; I desired him to Return my Resolution to his Commander; Which was, to defend His Majesty's Fort to the last Extremity; He told me by way of Caution, That he could not answer for the Treatment, we might Receive from the Indians, it being determined to Storm the Fort immediately.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Obedient and

most Humble Servant

Will: Eyre.

Maj: to 44th Regiment

Fort Willm Henry, Sunday March 20th

2. o' Clock afternoon —

To the Commanding Officer of His Majesty's Forces at Albany. —

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Endorsed Copy-| Letter from Maj. Eyre of 44th Regiment| to the Command^g Officer at Albany | Fort Wm Henry March 20th 1757 | An Account of the Attack made upon Fort Wm Henry. | in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of | April 25th / 8

Fort Wm. Henry March 24th. 1757.
2, Morn.

Sir

Since Sunday at Two a Clock in the afternoon, at which time I sent You an Express from hence, the Enemy have Con:-tinued round the Fort, and kept a Continual Fire of small Arms upon us, and on our Part we did the same at Night upon them, as Likewise of Artillery & Shells, whenever we heard or could dis:-cover them approaching us, which they were Continually Attempting under the Cover of darkness, This has Been the Case these three Nights past, every hour of each of them we Expected to be Assaulted in every Quarter; This You will find was Attempted at different times by the Declaration of Two Prisoners we took this Morning, but they were luckiley disconcerted and obliged to Retire

The Enemy not being able to Succeed in this, our store Houses & Sloops that were at some distance from the Garrison, were sett on Fire, Likewise the Battoes; The whale Boats and Scows have only Escaped, by what I can Learn, the Enemys Attempt

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Last night, was only to burn the Sloop on the Stocks; or any thing else that was without side the Ramparts.

Last Sunday Night the Rangers Hutts in their Picqueted Fort were on Fire on one Side at the same time the Store Houses were all in a Flame on the other, beside a Provincial Store House, and an old Hos:=pital where Levie the Jew Lived. These were burning all Round us, at once, so Violently, as gave me most Terrible Apprehensions, of having our Barracks set on Fire. Yet hap:=pily by proper care & Vigilance withinside, every thing is still well & safe. I got the Rooffs of the two Large Provincial Store Houses Cutt down, in Face of the Enemys Fire, which I believe Contributed a Good deal to hinder the Flames from doing Mischief.

Since day light the French have dis:=apeared, and the Prisoners tell us, they be:=lieve they are gone back as their provisions are Exausted as Likewise their Amunition. This seems to be the real Case but I shall have the same Look out as usuall untill I am Certain of it.

We took three Prisoners this Morning one

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of whom died as soon as brought into the Hospital; They inform us they saw four or five Men Kill'd by our Artillery We have but seven Wounded Slightly & the rest of the Garrison, Except the Sick are in great Spirits

NB The above is a Copy of the Express I sent You Yesterday at Four 'Clock in the afternoon, since which time, we have not heard, or seen, any thing of them nor can we make any discovery that any Enemy are near.

I am

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Wm. Eyre

Major to the 44th. Regiment

The Intelligence of the Two Prison:=ers I sent You with my Last Letter

To the Commdg Officer of H. My. Troops on their March from Albany-

Endorsed Copy| Major Wm. Eyre to the |Command:=ing Officer of H. My. | Troops on their March from Albany |Fort Wm. Henry March 24th. |1757-| in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of | April 25th. 1757.-|9

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Copy.–

Fort William Henry 25th. March 1757.–

My Lord.

Last Saturday, being the 19th. Instant, about One o'clock in the morning, a noise of Axes was heard, that seem'd to be about three miles from the Fort; And a small light was seen upon the East side, and a very considerable way down the Lake.– This gave the Alarm. Two hours or more after this, the Enemys approaches were heard very distinctly upon the Ice, with their whole Army.– This we afterwards learn'd, and also that they had 300. Scaling Ladders, and all the Apparatus necessary for a General Assault; This drew upon them a Smart fire of Artillery, and small Arms, which obliged the main Body to Retire.– After this they attempted to set on Fire, one of our Sloops and the Batteaus but were pre=vented; other Efforts were used before day light to accomplish this Affair, which they likewise failed in.– At the Break of day the Enemy withdrew, and a few men were sent out to see what they cou'd discover, who found a few Scaling Ladders and several other

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Emplements, to set the Vessells and Boats on Fire.

By Prisoners we afterwards took, we found the Enemy were very numerous; one of their Accounts is that they were 1650, another upwards of two Thousand, consisting of Regulars, Colony Troops (or their Independent Companys,) Canadians and Indians.–

The Enemy soon after they disappeared, began to shew themselves again on the Lake, and on each side of it, and by degrees their appearance grew more Formidable. They were filing off, in large Bodys to surround us, and at the same time kept a heavy fire of Small Arms upon the Garrison.– The fire of our Artillery Checked their approach, and by what we cou'd discover, made their different detachments Retire, for they made no Attempt that day, only fired Smartly with Musquetry.– The next morning, being the 20th, another Attempt was made by their whole Army, to Storm the place, but by the heavy fire from the Garrison, were drove back; This happened very early: Not Succeeding they set on Fire, two Sloops, and burnt Almost all our Batteaus; and when daylight appeared drew off.– about mid day their Army were seen

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marching across the Lake in Regular Bodys and seemed very numerous, as if Returning to: -wards Ticonderoga; but presently after, a few men were seen coming towards the Fort (with a red Flag) on the Ice, who made Signals at half a miles distance to have some one sent to Speak to them. I complied with this and sent an Officer and four Men, with an Other flag to meet them; presently after one of our own people brought me a Letter which was from Monsr. Vaudreuil Commander of the French Army, a Copy of which I enclose. in Consequence of the Letter I sent an other Officer to bring in Monsr. le Mercer Blindfolded. - The Substance of whose Mes: =sage I have likewise enclosed.

I desired him to make my Compliments to His General, and tell him, my first Reso: -lution was, to defend His Majesty's Garrison to the last Extremity. - upon this he was carried back blindfolded as he came, and soon after their Army were seen to move towards us. - every thing was in Readiness for a General Assault; and tho' we were sickly, a General firmness could be discovered by the behaviour of The Troops, so as to give great

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hopes, they would do their Part. The Officers behaved with the greatest diligence Care and Resolution.– The Enemys fire was soon Re=newed, by some detached Partys; The main Body kept at a distance.– That night or Early the next morning, a third General Assault was undertaken, which they likewise failed in.– They not succeeding set on Fire two Store houses, (in one of them a good deal of Provisions) on one side; a Provincial Storehouse, and All the Rangers Hutts (with=in side their Picketted Fort) on the other.– These different Fires burnt with such Violence, so as to make one apprehend, at one side of the Fort, that the other or opposite Quarters were in Flames; Yet happily by proper Care and Vigilence within side, no damage was done.– In this Situation we Continued the most part of the night, a perfect Silence was observed, and a Constant fire kept up=on the Enemy, when ever we could make any discovery by means of the Fires, or be=fore they were made, by listning with the utmost Attention. The different times that the Enemy Intended a general Assault un=der the Cover of Darkness, they were wholly

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baffled, by Steadily keeping up to this last Method, for our Eyes at these times, were of no use to us, being so excessively dark.—

The next day being monday the 21st. The Enemy withdrew at daybreak, in their usual way; This morning very few of Their Straglers remain'd, and about 9 or 10 o'Clock it began to Snow and continued so the whole day and night, during which time the fire on both sides in a great measure ceased, and we could not discover they attempted any thing during that time.— Tuesday the 22d. early in the morning, the Enemy seem'd Resolved to burn the Sloop upon the Stocks; several times they were beat off, but Still persevered & by means of Combustibles and dry Faggots, which they brought from their Encampment, at last effected their design: during the whole time they frequently attempted to set Fire to our Picketted Storehouse, that is next to the Lake, but were always bravely beat off. The last Efforts must have been used to preserve this place as it could not fail of setting the Garrison in flames if they had Succeeded.— The Sloop upon the Stocks Continued blazing untill broad day on Wednesday, when

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we discovered a man in the Swamp seemingly wounded; a Small party was ordered to bring him in; at which time, an other of the Enemy was found behind a Pile of Chord Wood; which last I apprehend was a afraid of going off, after the Sloop was in a blaze, as no Body cou'd move there=abouts, but must have been discovered: These are the Prisoners we now have; a Third was brought in, who had Scarsely life when taken into the Hospital. a little time after this the Enemy wholly disappeared.

The Whaleboats, Scows, or Gundales & Bayboats, he Escaped the Conflagration. - We have had only Seven Men Slightly Wounded. The Prisoners tell us our Artillery had good Effect.

I am, / My Lord
with great Respect
Your Lordship's
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Will: Eyre.
Maj. to 44th Regiment

P.S. I send the Intelligence & Declaration of the two Prisoners, and likewise a List of the things they inform Me their Army were provid'd with for this Expedition

Rt. Honble The Earl of Loudoun.

Strength

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Strength of the Garrison of Fort Wm. Henry.
when the Enemy came before it.

Regulars fit for duty	274.–
Rangers ditto	72.–
Total Well.—	346.–
Sick Regulars & Rangers	128.–
Total Sick & Well —	474.–

Endorsed Copy.–| Letter from Maj. Eyre of 44th. Regimt. | to the Earl of Loudoun | Fort Wm. Henry 26th. March 1757.| an Account of the Attack upon Fort Wm. Henry | in the E: of Loudoun's Letter of | April 25th. 1757/10.

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Copy

Albany. April 6th 1757.–

Sir,

The Enemy, You have found by my Dispatches, retired from Fort William Henry the 23d Ult. being, Wednesday, and the Tuesday following, I march'd from thence with with the old Garrison; Colo. Monro relieved me with five Companies of the 35th Regi:=ment.– The great Quantity of Snow which fell 2 Days before the Enemy retreated pre:=vented us from making any Discoveries of their Loss. The Morning I marched from thence some of the French were found thrust into a Hole, made in the Ice, one Man stuffed into the pile of Chord Wood, which they had set on Fire, and an Indian, that the Enemy had cover'd with Snow, and taken his Scalp off.

The Darkness of the Nights, with the Assistance of the Snow and Ice, fur:=nished the Enemy with Opportunities enough to conceal their Loss, but do not doubt when a Thaw happens, many of them will be discover'd. As the Enemy were a Month on their March, from the Time they left

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Montreal (where they were reviewed by Mons.r Montcalm) before they arived at their Encampment, the Fatigue of that, the very severe Weather, which was some part of the Time, whilst they were before the Fort, and the Continuance of it since, must have harrassed & distressed them so much, as in all probability, have greatly lessen their Numbers. The Vast thickness of Snow, which was greatly thawed upon the Ice, obliged them to leave all or most of their Hand Sleys behind them; We found where they burnt all their Scaling Ladders, not being able to drag them back upon their Sleys. Several pieces of Canvas, which the Soldiers had by Way of Tents, were found scatter'd along the path they made on their Return, & in their Encampment.

I hope before this reaches You, You will be freed from Your Complaints, which I was very much concerned to hear of. I am,

Sir, | Your most ob.t | humble Servant

Will. Eyre.

To Major General Webb.—

Endorsed Copy. | A Letter from Major Eyre / to Maj: Gen: Webb / Albany. April 6th. 1757 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of / April 25th. 1757 / 11

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Fort William Henry March 23d. 1757.

Guillaume Chasse a Native of France of the Regimt. of Languedoc taken Prisoner this morn=ing being Examin'd

Declares that Monsr. de Vaudreuill Com=mandr. of the French Army on Lake St. Sacrement and Governor of Troes Reviery Left Carillon on Tuesday the 15th. Instant, as it was then Reported with an Army of 2000. but since they find their Number only to be Sixteen Hundred and Fifty, which Con=sists of 250 Regulars of France, 250 or 300 Troupes des Colonies 800 Canadians and 300 Savages

2...... He further says that the Troops arrived on Friday the 18th Instant about 11. O-Clock at night at the Place of their Present En=campment on the Lake and that they were determin'd to Assault the Fort by Escalade before break of day next morning being Satur=day the 19th. and for that purpose they had brought 300 Scaling Ladders with them.—

3...... The Fort was to be storm'd in three different Places at once by Nine hundred men Consisting of all the Regulars and Canadians supported by the Troupes des Colonies & Indians

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4 . . . . He says Likewise on the Return of the Flagg of Truce it was Reported amongst the Troops that the Garrison refused to Surrender the Fort not so much from a Willingness, and Resolution to defend it, but on Account that they believed there was a Thousand Indians in the French Army, and that they Expected to be equally ill Treated whether the Fort was Surrendred upon Articles of Capitulation or that it was taken by Storm, and for that reason alone they would not give it up, In Consequence of which refusal it was be:-lieved that they were to make a General Assault that day, as the Ladders and every other thing for that Purpose was ordered to be in readiness.

5 . . . . The reason he says that they did not put their design in Execution was owing to their finding the Garrison Alert and so much on their Guard -

6 . . . . Upon his being Examin'd a Second time he declares that the Army were upon their March twice, to Storm the Fort on Sun-day and Munday mornings before break of day, but were both times drove back by the Fire from the Fort.

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7 . . . . . Being examin'd with regard to the State of their Provisions at Present, says the whole will be Exausted this day as they brought only eleven days Provisions with them, and that the Indians had eaten more than their Proportion, Likewise that the Indians had left the Camp Yesterday in order to return to Carillon, and he thinks the whole Army must return back to day

Their Army he says left St. Johns with every thing provided New for this Ex:-pedition and with 60 Rounds of Ammunition.

8 . . . . . Being Examin'd with regard to the State of the Garrison of Carillon says it was healthy, Consisted of 300 Men whereof about 30 men Sick

9 . . . . . He says there are Eight Regiments of French Regulars in North America Viz.t one Battalion at Quebec, one at Montreal, one at Point de Otram de Quebec, one at Long Point, one at Boucherville, one at Chamle, and Two at Louisbourg.

He says that they have two English men in their Army before the Fort who were taken in the Late Engagement with Rogers, one of whom is a Serjeant, the other

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Private; who had undertaken to show them the way to the Garrison, and the most accessable Places, where they would make the Attack with Success, and that in case they made themselves Masters of the Forts, each of them was to have one Thousand Crowns.

He says that if they had dis=-coverd any Succours Marching to the Assist=ance of the Garrison, they intended to have Put themselves in Ambuscade, between this and the other Fort and Attackd them, and they had Indian Scouts sent out for that Purpose to Reconnitre the Road between this and Fort Edward.—

John Victora, Suiss, by Birth, be:longing to the Troupes des Colonies taken this morning in the Swamp.—

Being Examined says that their Army left Carillon last Tuesday was Seven-night Consisting of 500 Colony Troops, 200, and upwards of Regular Troops from France, 1000 Cannadians, and 300 Indians, who Join'd them at Carrilong they Likewise draught=ed 25 Men out of each of the Forts of Crown Point and Carrillon, and brought 12 days Provisions from this last Fort, which

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he says is all Consumed, and agrees with the other Prisoner, that they were obliged to maintain the Indians with their Pro=
=visions who appeard very uneasey for two days past, and were eager to return home, by reason of the Extreme Severity of the Weather and their want of Provisions.

He agrees exactly with the other Prisoner in the time, their Army Arrived at their present Encampment on Friday the 18th before mid-Night and that it was resolved to Attack the Fort by Escalades early on Saturday Morning and for that purpose march'd towards it about three in the morning, which they were in hopes to Surprize, the darkness of the Night fa:
-vouring their designs, and relying on the Garrisons being off their Guard, but says they were disappointed in their Attempts, up:
=on finding the Garrison Alarmed, and that the firing of Our Cannon and small Arms, made them retreat Precipitatly Leav:
=ing some of their Scaling Ladders behind them.— And he further says, that they made the same Attempt the Sunday and Monday Mornings following, but they still

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found our People Alert and were drove back by the fire of the Garrison, after being so often Repulsed, he says the same Night they burnt their Scaling Ladders, it then snowing very hard—

Being ask'd what Treatment the Garrison was to receive had they made themselves Masters of the Fort, answer'd that they were to give no Quarters, but so soon as they had Possession of the Cannon they were to turn them against us, put the whole Garrison to the Sword and afterwards blow up the Fort—

Endorsed Copy| declaration |of Two Prison: =ers taken | the 23d March 1757.—| at Fort Wm Henry| in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of| April 25th 1757. |12

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Copy

Fort William Henry, March 20th 1757.

John Victor, a French prisoner, being examined with Regard to several particulars con=cerning the late Expedition, under the Command of Monsr. de Vaudreuil, against Fort William Henry, Says,

That he was at Montreal during the Winter till the 19th of Feby, & for several Months before, it was the Common Talk there, about an Ex=pedition before the Winter was over, against the English Forts. The Army for this Expedition was plentifully supplyed with every necessary of Cloathing &ca. at the King's Expence.

Each Man had two pair Mocasans, or Indian Shoes, 1 pr. Indian Stockings or Leg pieces,
One pr. thick worsted Mittons for their Hands,
Two new Cotton Shirts, 1 pr. worsted Stockings, 1 pr. woollen Sox.
One thick red woollen Cap, besides their Hatts.
One Flannel Waistcoat with Sleeves.
A blue Cloath Vest, & Breeches,
One upper Coat,
One Watch Coat or Great Coat with a Cap.
One fine Blanket,
And every man in the Army had a Bear Skin.

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Likewise each Man had three Knives given him, viz.t two small Knives for the pocket, and one large Knife in a Case, to hang at their Breast, with which, he says, You are to fight as he was told, one Tomahawk, one pair of Snow Shoes, a pair of Iron Creepers to walk on the Ice, a Steel and Flint, a Comb, a Shoe Awl, Six Needles and a Quantity of Thread, & half a pound of Tobacco, in a Bag.

The Grenadiers only had Sabres.—

They were provided at Carillon (Ticonderoga) the Morning they marched from thence, with twelve Days provisions, viz.t Six days Bisket, & Six Days bread, and half a pound of pork a Day, but they had no Allowance of Spirits, Wine, nor Vinegar, only the Indians were allowed Rum,

All the Indians and a Considerable Number of the Troops, besides were provided with Skeats.

The Army was provided with Three Hun:=dred Scaling Ladders, several Boxes full of Combustibles, with Machines and Implements, for Setting on Fire Vessels, Store Houses &ca. and every other Thing requisite for the Storming of the Garrison.

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As they brought no Horses or Wheell Car:
=riages with them, and every Man had so much Luggage to carry, each man was provided with what he calls a Hand Sley, and a strong rope to draw it by, & with the Assistance of these; every Man was enabled, with very little Toil or Fatigue to carry along on the March, all the above Articles of Cloathing, Provisions & other Necessarys.

He says, from the Time the Army left Ticonderoga, till they arrived at the place of their Encampment, near the Fort that they marched chiefly in the Night Time, & with great Silence & Circumstances, the Indians al:
=ways in the Front.

He says, the General is a little Man, thin & Spare, about 36 Years of Age, always marched in the Front, and had no other Accommodations than a Soldiers Tent, which was the only one in the Whole Army. They brought only one Drum along with them, which he says he never heard but once, and that was a little before they intended a General Assault.

Being asked if ever the Whole army had surrounded the Fort, he said they had done so the first Morning of their Coming

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before it, but that on the Firing of our first Great Guns, their Officers ordered them to Retreat again; — It was at This Time, the first Day of the Moon, and excessively dark.

He likewise declares, that before he left Montreal, the Garrison had buried a Hundred Men, that died of the Scurvy.

Guillaume Chasse, the other Prisoner, being examined with Regard to the above, con=firms every Article, and also says, that every two Men had a large Axe for Cutting of Wood, every four Men for Cooking had a Copper Kettle, and likewise a Large Piece of Canvas each four for a Covering by Way of a Tent. —

Endorsed Copy. | Information of John Victor | and Guillaume Chasse, two | French Prisoners. — | Fort William Henry March 25th. | 1757. | in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of | April 25th. 1757. | 13

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Copy

New York, April 24th. 1757.—

Sir,

I was extremely sorry we cou'd not have the Pleasure and Advantage of Your Assistance at the Meeting of the Governors of the Southern Provinces at Philadelphia, but since the Distance made that impossible, You will see that we have had the greatest Attention to Your province, and, as far as we possibly cou'd spare Men, have given You a Force to defend it.—

Inclosed You have one Copy of the Minutes, where the Destination of the whole Force, raised for the Southern province as mentioned.

As the Objection Your province has generally made to raising any considerable Number of Men, is on Acct. of the great Number of blacks, that they are afraid of their rising, if they shou'd move many of their White Men to the Frontiers: That Objection is now removed, as the additional Force sent is sufficient to keep them in Awe.

I have sent Colo. Bouquet to command the Troops on this Occasion, who is a very

good Officer, and one that I flatter myself, You will be perfectly pleased with; & I must beg Leave to recommend him to You in the most earnest Manner.— As it is impossible, at this Distance, to fix a plan absolutely, the one I have recommended to him, for his Out Set, but to be subject to his Alteration, accord=ing to the Circumstances and Situation of Affairs, is, that the 500 Men to be raised in South Carolina shou'd be posted on the Fron=tiers, and in Your advanced posts; That the other Provincial Troops shou'd be posted within them, according to the Situation of the Country, and where the Danger may be apprehended by the Intelligence You may re=ceive, and so as either to support them or defend other posts. As to the Regular Forces it appears to me, unacquainted as I am with the Country, that they ought to be kept near Charles Town, as that is the place of greatest Importance.

I think the advancing the South Caro=lina Troops, is the most reasonable, both be=cause they must be best acquainted with Your Frontiers, & as it wou'd be improper for me to put the Mother Country to the

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CO 5/48

extraordinary Expence of Transporting provisions at this Distance, except there were an absolute Necessity for it: and as Your province is rich, and at the same Time can, from being in Use of furnishing from the Neigh=bourhood of those parts, do it much cheaper, than we can with the King's provision from Charles Town.

And for the same Reason, I desire to advance the other provincial Troops no further than is necessary, to prevent that extra=ordinary Expence which must attend the providing them at a Distance.

And as Charles Town is of the greatest Consequence, I think that Lieut Col.o Bouquet with the Regulars shou'd be posted in the Neighbourhood of it, both for it's Security, and to distribute his Orders to the more distant parts, and to give them all necessary Relief and Assistance in Case of any attack on them.

You will perceive, that I have ordered 100 Men of the Virginia Troops into the fort built by that Dominion in the Cherokee Country, for the Security of that post; and as it is, as I am informed, within 9 Miles

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of the Fort built by Your province at Chota, I think You shou'd reinforce that Fort by part of your people, as what can be spared from Virginia, is not sufficient to secure that Fortress, which is in Your province and tends principally to Your Security, which if it shou'd fall into the Enemy's Hands will be a Strength for them to annoy us from.

And as the Force is sent there en:=tirely for the protection of the valuable and rich province of South Carolina, I do expect they will supply that Garrison with pro:=visions at their own Expence.

And I must further beg of You to give all necessary Assistance to Col: Bouquet, both by giving him all Intelligence, and giving him all possible Aid, in supplying him with whatever may be necessary for carrying on the Service.

I have sent Mr. Atkin to You, whom the King has been pleased to appoint to the Management of all the Southern Indians. He is a Counsellor of Your own province, and I hope will be agreeable to You, I shall give him all necessary Assistance from hence, and I cannot doubt Your province will Supply him

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with what may be wanted for Carrying on that, so necessary not only for the prosperity, but even the Safety of all the Southern provinces.–

I have talked with the Governors of the other Southern provinces on this Subject who will use their Influence with their Assemblies, for this purpose, and I am sure from Your Knowledge in publick Affairs, You will see the Necessity their is of bringing the Assemblies of the different provinces in America, to bear a Share in the Defence of the Whole, which the Mother Country is expending such large Sums on at present.

I am &ca–

To Gov: Lyttleton.–

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Endorsed Copy./ A Letter from the Earl of/ Loudoun to Govr. Lyttleton../ New York, April 24th 1757.–/ in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of/ April 25th. 1757. / 14

Copy.

Quebec. 26. 8bre: 1756.

Je profite Mon Cher Monsieur avec grand Plaisir d'un batiment qui va à St. Domingue pour vous donner signe de vie. Je vous envoyai dernierement par la voie de Mr. de Givry le detail de la prise de Chouaguein ou il y avoit 1700. hommes de Garnison consistant en 3 Regiments dont deux de l'Ancienne Angle=terre. J'en ai fait passer une partie en France. Nous avons batus cette année les Anglois partout. Notre Armée est encore Campée à Carillon où l'on batit une forteresse depuis l'année derniere 6 Lieües au dessus Saint Frederic Je ne sçai si Elle sera finie l'année prochaine Nous y avons eu jusqu'a pres de 6. mil hommes Ils vont commancer à defiler le Canada est a present un Cahos. Si je ne repasais pas en France je deviendrois fol Je n'ai pas eu un mot de reponse sur mon retour que j'ai demandé fortement au Com=mencement de l'Année. Comme on ne m'aurait pas plus d'obligation si je devenois imposant dans se pays ci et qu'on ne me dira seulement pas grand Merci des Services essentiels que j'y rends Je repasserai sans permission si ma Santé l'exige.

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On fait la Guerre a present en Canada comme en France avec autant de Suitte et d' Equipage Il n'y a que les pauvres Canadiens qui ne sont pas dans le cas etant toujours en parti avec les Sauvages et essuiant tout le feu. Nos Troupes de France passent l' Eté' campées et elles sont néantmoins très fatiguées. Il en coutera bon pour cette transmigration.

Adieu Mon Cher Monsieur donés moi de vos nouvelles je vous prie par toutes les occasions.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from ... to Mr. de/ Lalanne, bearing date at Quebec the/ 26th October 1756. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of / April 20th 1757. / 15.

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Gosport March 15th 1757

Sir

I am to acquaint You that, as Yet, Admiral Holburn has not been able to get the Fishing Seynes & Cordidge &ca for the Use of the Troops now going on the Ex=pedition, which I, before leaving London, when I had ye honor of receiving Your last com=mands, took upon Me to Assure You would, if We could procure them, prove of infinite Service to them when We arrive in North America, particularly as They will then have lived for a considerable time entirely upon Salt Provision, Wherefore, a Plenty of Fish, after that, would be the greatest Refreshment to them, & would most probably prevent Our Hospitals from being so immedi=ately crowded with Sick, as otherwise they would possibly be, & further, would be a means (as I am certain) of the Saving the Lives of many.

I must confess I did Acknowledge to You, Sir, that the asking these Things for the Service of the Troops on board Trans=ports, might be deemed New & Unprecedented, but I hope, as the thing appears to be so

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Promising of being attended with yᵉ Utmost Utility & Advantage to their Health, that The want of Precedent may not be a Bar to Our getting them, & I flatter Myself, as such is the motive, that You may, for that reason, be so much a Freind to the Troops, on this Occasion, as to fall upon some me=thod of letting Us be furnished with these things (which I cannot but call Necessaries) here, if possible before We Sail.

I am obliged to take yᵉ liberty of Saying that, it must not be the Fishing Seynes alone, but there must be the proper quantity of Cordidge &ca requisite for the mak=ing Use of them with.

The Agent to the Transports Acquaints Me that, in Answer to the Demand which has been made here for these things, He has been told that, the Issuing them without a Board Order (by which I understand it is meant an Order from the Navy Board) is a Thing Unprecedented, & that, except that is procured, they cannot be delivered, So that I conclude an Order from the Board of Ad=miralty to that Board on this Occasion will be necessary. The Fishing Lines & Hooks both

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for Cod & Mackerel Fishing hace been delivered to Us, as I understand, but I must at ye same time acquaint You, that, as the Order We had for those things only mentioned the Hooks & Lines, & not Leads for them, We are likewise told that the Delivering the Latter will be also Unprecedented, So that for want of them the former will be of very little, or no Service, as, on board of Transports We shall be entirely at a Loss for Lead, or any other thing to Substitute in place of it -

I beg pardon for troubling You on these Heads, but at ye same time, as I am Satisfyed You will be of Opinion that if they are granted they will be of great Service, I doubt not but You will be so good to Excuse Me, even Supposing I may be making Applica:tion in a Wrong Place. I am Sorry I have it to Say that We have so Cross a Wind which at present Blows excessive hard.

I am

Sir

Your most Obedt

& Most Hble Servt

P. T. Hopson

Should

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Should You, Sir, have any Commands to honour Me with please Order them to be directed to the care of ye Postmaster at Portsmouth —

Right Honble. Wm. Pitt —

Endorsed Gosport. March 15th 1757. / Majr. Genl. Hopson. / Rx 16th.

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Cork April 28th. 1757

Sir

I have the honour to Acquaint You that I Arrived at the Cove on Monday last, with the Squadron of His Majestys Ships, & Transports under the Command of Vice Admiral Holburn, & the next day I came to this place where I took upon me the Command of His Majesty's Troops, who are under Orders for Imbarkation, The necessary Orders are given for Regulating & proportioning the Pro=visions on Board the Several Transports, & for compleating Their Water, as likewise for Repairing some small Damage They received on the passage; in Order for Their being fit to Receive the Troops, & when that is done no time will be lost in Embarking Them so as They may be ready to proceed upon Execut=ing His Majesty's Commands with all possible Expedition. And further as by Your Letter of 19th Febry last wherein You Signify'd to me That "Altho' by the Instructions which "His Majesty was pleased to Sign for Me that "Way, I was directed to take care that the Troops "under my Command should be properly & Ex="peditiously Imbark'd at Cork, together with Their

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"Arms, Tents & Camp Necessarys & that You
"was Commanded to Signify to Me the Kings
"Pleasure, That in case the Transport Vessels
"should be Arrived at Cork & Ready for the
"Reception of the said Troops, before all the
"Camp Necessarys could be compleated I should
"not, on that Account defere the Embarkation
"of the Men, & that proper care should be ta=
"=ken to send to Halifax as soon as possible
"such part of the Camp Necessaries as should be
"left behind — I must observe to You that in
Order to Assertain what Tents, & Camp Necessaries,
for the Troops, were Aboard the Transports, &
the several Species of Them, That for Your in:
:formation & Mine, I might be Acquainted with
whate should Appear to have been left behind,
in Order for such part being sent after the
Troops to Halifax — I have found myself under
the Disagreeable necessity, of Ordering these things
(which were Embark'd at Portsmouth) to be inspect:
:ed by Report forthwith to be made to me Accord:
:ingly, which I shall transmit to You as soon
as I can have it made to me & hope it may
be before I am Obliged to Close this.

I have this Day given Orders for the
Baggage of two Regiments, to be Embark'd tomorrow

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it being judged Adviseable first to Get that Aboard, before the Men Are to be Embarked.- Except the Execution of all necessary Orders previous to the Embarkation Nothing but the Affair of the Camp necessaries, having been so confusedly packed, sent Down to, & Embark'd at Ports:-mouth; has delay'd my Embarking the Troops however I am in hopes that obstacle will now soon be Removed, & that the Troops may all be aboard in a few Days, & ready to proceed, tho' I still want the Reports before mention'd. I cannot but be persuaded I should have been Greatly Blameable had I Embark'd the Troops before taking the precautions I have done towards knowing what Camp Necessaries there are for the Troops, & what are wanting lest. among the latter, such as are most material should be a part of Them, which might have been of the Outmost ill consequence to the Expedition.

Now, Sir, after using all my endeavours towards getting every thing Regulated in the best Manner, so as that the service We are Intended for may meet with no kind of Ob:-struction when We gett to the Place of Our Destination, yet it is possible (notwithstanding my thorough Zeal for His Majestys service & all I

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have done to effect it) that for want of the Reports relating to the Camp necessaries turning Out as I wish they may, which is satisfactory; I say, still I may be disappointed & at last the service be impeded, however I trust that You will Honour me in doing me the Justice to Assure the King of my most sincere en:=deavours towards Executing His Majestys Com:=mands in the best Manner I am able so as my Conduct may meet His Royal Approbation.

I am

with great regard

Sir

Your most Obedient

and most Hble Servant

P. T. Hopson.

Right Honble. Willm. Pitt_

Endorsed Cork April 28th. 1757 | Majr. Genl. Hopson | Rx May 9th.

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Newark. Corke Harbour May 7th. 1757.

Sir

I did Myself the honour to write to You the 28th of April, which I hope You have received.

The Troops are all Embarked, The Last of them got aboard Thursday night. We are Unmoored & The Admiral intends Sail=ing this day. As to the Camp Necessaries I soon found that the Several Regiments were so near being compleat in that particular as to be fit to take ye Feild. The inspecting into those things has caused no delay what=ever, as it was done while the Transports were Shifting their Provisions in order to be ready to receive the Troops aboard, for We began Embarking the Baggage the day that the Agent for the Transports reported them to be so, & it was followed by the Troops who were all Embarked in three days. By Order from the Government of Ireland, We have had delivered to the Several Regimts for ye Expedition, 587 Draughts from four other Regiments in the Neighbourhood in order to be Encorporated, which was done, & I Embarked them with the respective Regiments

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they were put to; without retarding the Em:
=barkation one moment.

This morning Arrived His Majesty's Ships Invincible, Nassau, Defiance & Portmahon.

I am
Sir
Your Most Obed^t.
& most H^ble Servt.

P. T. Hopson

Right Honble W^m. Pitt —

Endorsed Newark in Cork Harbour/ May 7th. 757/ Maj^r. Genl. Hopson./ R^d 16th

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C.O.5 : 48

New York . 24. Decem^br 1756.

Sir

I took the Liberty to acquaint you by the Earl of Leicester Packet the 11th of October, of my Arrival here in the General-Wall Pac=ket on the 6th of that Month; of which I had immediately Sent Advice to the Earl of Loudoun. I proceeded afterwards to Albany, where I received a Letter from his Lordship at the Camp at Fort Edward, that he should be glad to Meet with me at the End of the Campaign, which was then near at hand. He came to Albany the 2d of last Month; and Sir Willm. Johnson a few days after. Then his Lordship held a Consultation with us both upon the Indian Affairs; and was pleased to express great Satisfaction at the perfect Harmony that he found in our Sentiments in general upon those Affairs. By his Lordship's Directions we presented in Writing our Thoughts & Opinion, "Upon what "footing, & after what manner, the British "Trade or Commerce with the Indian Nations "may be best carried on & Supported for the "future." Which we did Separately, adapted more particularly to the District assigned to each of

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us Respectively

Sir William told me, that the Six Nations were Weakened & really distressed, Some of the Western Nations having by the Manage=ment of the French fallen off from their Alliance; and the Shawanoes & Delawares up=on the Ohio, who had been Subject to them, having been Set up & Supported independent of them by the French also, still continuing Hos=tilities against the People of Pensylvania, Mary=land, Virginia, & Carolina, contrary to their Orders. Wherefore he was very Sure, they would be glad to be strengthened by an Al=liance with the Southern Nations; & tho they were too proud to Seek it in a direct way. And that before he came from home, he had hinted to Some of their Sackems My being at Albany, as a good Opportunity for them to lay a Foundation for that purpose; which he perceived was well Relished. Sir William repeated the same before he left Albany, in order to go to a Meeting of the Six Nations appointed to be held at his own House. And as I proposed some Indians, to be asked by him in my Name, for the Service in view, he wished that I could be present Myself

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at that Meeting. As I judged this to be a very favourable Opportunity, for endeavouring to put an End to the Wars which have Sub:=sisted time out of Mind between the Six united Nations, & Some or other of the South:=ern Nations. and consequently for bringing about an Alliance by degrees between all the Indian Nations in friendship with the British Subjects, & reducing them into one general System; therefore laying aside the Distinction of Districts, in a Matter wherein his Majesty's Interest was so nearly concerned, I did, with Lord Loudoun's Approbation, follow Sir William to Fort Johnson in the Mohawk Country; where I was one whole Week during the Conferences. They were, as he Said, much graver than usual. And the Sachems at last acknowledged, that they had not Sufficient Authority to answer the principal Question which he repeatedly urged, (to wit, what Assistance we might rely on from them in the next Campaign? or what part they were determined to act in the present War between us & the French?) until they should have a more General Meet:=ing at Onondaga, after the Return of some of their People who were then gone to Montreal.

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When I made afterwards my Speech to them, Suited to the Occasion of my Coming, they could not conceal their Pleasure all the while I was Speaking. After a Short Con=sultation together privately they gave an Answer by their Speaker, (contrary to their usual Cus=tom) without going out of the Room. "They "owned, that what I Said, had made a "deep Impression upon their Hearts. They "thanked me for coming there; desired me "to tell all the Southern Indians their Reso=lution was to continue in our Interest; and "that they should thankfully receive any As=sistance from them against the French, who "were upon the Borders of their Country. "They desired me to use my Interest to ob=tain that Assistance; And gave me a "large Belt of Wampum, to be delivered "with their Message to the Chicasaws, & "by them to be sent to the other Nations."

As I foresaw that, in case it should be found expedient to Set any of the Southern Indians to War upon the Shawanoes & Dela=wares, they would be desirous of knowing first for certain, how it would be looked upon by the Six Nations. I told them, I

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beleived those Indians would ask me, how it came to pass that the Shawanoes & Delawares, who had been long counted a part of them, & under their absolute Direction, still continued Hostilities against the English? and what they were to think of that? And I desired there=fore they would tell me, what I should say to them thereupon - To this Question, after Consultation, they made Answer (returning 3 Strings of Wampum), "That they should make "one Trial more with the Shawanoes & Dela=wares by a very large Belt; And if they "did not listen to their Admonitions, they "would tell them, They must die."

They agreed also to a Proposition I made, in regard to the Mischief frequently com=mitted in the Settlements of Carolina, by unknown Indians coming through the Coun=try of the Cherokees, and in order to dis=tinguish our Indian Friends & Enemies every where in each District, "That for the future "any of their People going to the Southward "shall produce to me, or at the Fort lately "built on the other side of the Cherokee Moun="tains, a Passport from Sir Willm. Johnson, "Mentioning their Business; And that whenever

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"they meet with any Indian to the Northward,
"having a written Paper with an Impression
"of my Seal of Office (which was viewed by
"them), they shall look upon him as a Friend"

Those three Points obtained are of much Importance to the present Service. It shall be my Business to improve them to the utmost among the Southern Nations; So that the wished for Success may be reaped therefrom.

I returned to Albany with Sir William Johnson; And having had so much longer time, to talk over Matters, & compare our Sentiments, as we prove agreeable to each other, this personal Acquaintance hath Served to establish that kind of Confidence between us, in our mutual Negotiations for the future, which is necessary for Success in Publick Affairs — I came back to this place, the Same time that Lord Loudoun did And as soon as ever I receive his Lordship's Dispatches with my Instructions, I shall immediately proceed by Land to the Southern Provinces.

I thought it proper, Sir to give this Detail of my Time Spent in these parts; And

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beg Leave to repeat, that I will Spare no Labour or Pains, to acquit myself faithfully of the Commission his Majesty hath honoured me with.

I am with all due Respect

Sir

Your most humble, and

Most Obedient Servant.

Edmd. Atkin

Rt Honble Henry Fox Esqr. Secretary of State

Endorsed New York. Decr. 24th. 175 | Mr. Atkin | R4 Feb ry 11th.

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New York 3d May 1757.

Sir,

I had the honor of receiving Your Letter of February 4th, on the Evening of May 1st, by the Ferret Sloop of War, who had a passage of twelve Weeks from Portsmouth, had met with very bad Weather, and came in, in a Shatter'd Condition.

I am extremely happy to find, that the preparations I have made, and the Plan I had prepared for in a great Measure, Co-incides with the Orders I have now re=ceived; and shall not repeat them, as You have an Account of the Steps I had taken and was pursuing, in my Letter of March; And have a further Account of them in my Letter of April.

On the 2d of this Month I sent an Express with Orders, for the three Battalions at Albany & Schenectady, immediately to Embark in the Sloops, prepared for bringing them here; And dispatched a Sloop of War to Halifax, to acquaint the Admiral who Commands, with the forwardness we were in here, to join him at Halifax, and that Sir Charles Hardy was to take the charge of the Embarkation

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from hence, for the Convoy of which, he had the Nightengale and Kennington of Twenty Guns each, with the Vulture and Ferret Sloops of War; And likewise sent the necessary Orders, to Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence and the Com: =manding Officer of the Troops at Halifax; And that I had likewise Order'd the Con: =tractor, to send as large a Supply of fresh Provisions as possible to Halifax, and had writ to the People of Boston to do the same; but the Winter has been so extremely Severe and lasted So long in this Country, that I am afraid, for some time our Supplies of that sort will be but small.

I shall say nothing of the day we shall Sail, as I shall have a Packet to carry to Sea from there to Acquaint You, that we are Sailed.

As the Preparations made here for the Expedition, are all that depends on us, for either of the places proposed to be Attacked, Sir Charles Hardy and Major General Abercromby Agree with me, to leave the further fixing of the Plan, till our arrival at Halifax, and meeting with the Admiral there with the Suc: =cours, and where we may have an Account

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of what Strength the Enemy may have re:
-ceived this Year from Europe.

You have likewise in my former Letters, the preparations I have made, for the defense of the North & South parts of this Country, during our absence on the Expedition.- In the Southern parts, You see I have divided the Battalion I have sent, the one half to South Carolina, and kept the other half in Pensilvania: this measure I took, in conjunction with the Governors of the Southern Provinces, who all agreed, that South Carolina was the place where danger was most to be ap:
=prehended; And at the same time, I could not leave the Frontiers of Pensilvania and Maryland, without some Force and a proper Officer to Command.

Governor Dinwiddie, apprehended no great Attack on Virginia, except it should come by Fort Cumberland.

As the distances in this Country are so great, and the Winters render the Road so difficult, I was obliged at the Close of the Campaign, to go to several Provinces, to settle the Quotas each were to furnish, which I could not have done without I had been present,

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both in the Northern and Southern divisions; for there are so many difficulties to remove in this Country, in order to set things in Motion; that being on the Spot is necessary at present: how that may be hereafter, I cannot say, but I hope things may go Smoother.

As this was the Case, I have no great hopes of the Provinces raising any more Troops, this Season, than what were then Agreed to: which was the reason of my principaly insisting with the Northern Provinces, on their Militia; As they can easily, if they are in Earnest, Collect on any Emergency, in the upper part of this Province, and in the adjoining parts of Massachusetts and Connecticutt, in case of any Attack by the Mohawk River, or at the Forts, a great number of the Militia, on a short Notice.

The Militia are the real Inhabitants; Stout Able Men, and for a brush, much better than their Provincial Troops, whom they hire whenever they can get them, and at any Price; but then, the Militia cannot be detained any time in the Field, but will return home: Whilst they stay in that back Country, they insist on being maintain'd at

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the Kings Expence, which is necessary, as they cannot Supply themselves, the Country producing Nothing; but this is much Cheaper than the maintaining a much smaller number of Provincials the whole Campaign, where the general Service can be carried on without them.

In my Letter to the Southern Governors, in this Article, I have acted on the same principle, except to Pensilvania, where there is no Militia Law, except in some of the Counties where they have partial One's.

I had a further Point to guard against, in the Southern Governments, which was the Expence of maintaining their People with Provisions, as every Man in this Country, would if possible, throw the whole Expence on the Publick, and save the Province from being at one Shilling Expence for the com=mon Cause.

The Northern Provinces had been so used to be fed with Money, that I am not able to set them in Motion, without main=taining all their People, on the terms of the Letter from the Kings Minister; besides, they are all serving out of their own Pro=vinces, except the New York People, who are

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quite gone up in the back Country.

When I came to settle with the South=ern Provinces, who had not been Employed so much in Expeditions, I setled with them, that the King should not be at the Expence of maintaining their People, but such as I Marched out of their Provinces, which are the detachments that go to South Carolina; that all the others, should be maintained by their respective Provinces, as they were Employed Solely for their defense; And I further insisted, that Pensilvania and Virginia should be at the Expence of transporting their Quotas to South Carolina, and so it stands at present; but I am far from being sure, that I shall not have such demands for some of those Ex=pences, that I shall be under a necessity of complying with some of them, in order to carry on the Service; but in order to prevent this as far as I can, I have enter'd a little into the Explanation of Your Letter in relation to the things their Troops are to be Supplied with. Enclosed You have Copies of both those Letters.

I have received the Accounts of the Expences of last Campaign, from the Massachusetts

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Bay for their Quota; I have had them Ex=amined by Mr. Mortier, one of the Deputy Pay Masters; I have had little time to look into them; but from the Situation I am in, and the Connections I must have with the Provinces, it is necessary for me, to Sollicit Your Protection and favor to the several Provinces; who send by this Packet, their Claim to be laid before You.

And at the same time it is neces=sary, in case it should be thought proper to make them any allowance, to make a few observations on those Accounts, because if they are passed as they stand, they will be a Precedent hereafter, and more or less Affect the Publick, whenever they shall think proper to Employ Provincial Troops.

Under the Article of Artillery, they have included Tents, Drums, Colours, all Camp Necessaries, Platters, Pans, Keggs and a number of other things they have been in use of furnishing their Troops, unknown in a regular Army; Those things, I have ad=vised striking out of the Accounts, and have insisted, on their furnishing their Troops with them this Year, at the Expence of

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the Province, as I do not think them Entitled to them from the Crown, on the words of the Secretary of States Letter; And I think it the more necessary to be on my Guard in all Claims of this sort, because when once Settled, there is no bringing it back again; And it is the constant Study of every Pro=vince here, to throw every Expence on the Crown, and bear no part of the Expence of this War themselves.

They have consulted me in relation to this Account, and I have given them my advice fairly; but in many Articles they have not followed it:— I objected against the Provisions and other things, which were remains of what they had provided for the Campaign in the Year 1755, when Sir William Johnson Commanded; as the different Provinces had that Year, One hundred and fifteen thousand Pounds from the Publick, which I think paid all that Expence.

There is at the end of the Account, a long List of things, attested to be at Albany, by the Chairman of the Committee, which he signed on the return of the Com=missary, and really was the Case so far as

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he knew; but the truth is, another Commissary of theirs, at Albany, has Shipped off a Sloop-load of them, which are gone to Boston, without consulting with me, to know what part of them might be usefull to the Service, or giving any return, of what is gone and what is left.

In the Account now to be presented, there is charg'd every Sum they have Expended; and they propose to send by another Packet, an Account of what they have receiv'd, arising from the Provisions delivered over to the Contractor, which I never could bring them to settle till now, that they are arrived in the hurry of the Embarkation, but it shall be done, and I shall see that he Pays a fair Price.

They then propose, Selling the damaged or useless Stores, which two Sums they intend to give Credit for; but I do not see, how I can give any directions, in relation to the disposal of those Stores, till I am informed, what the Intentions of the Kings Ministers are, as to Paying these demands.

I am, with great Regard and Esteem,

Sir, / Your Most Obedient and / Most Humble Servant

Loudoun

The Right Honble William Pitt.

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Copy.

Circular to the Southern Governors.–

New York May 5th 1757.

Sir,

As I have received a Copy of a Letter from One of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State to You, signifying His Majesty's Pleasure, that you should apply to Your Council and Assembly in the Strongest manner, to raise with the utmost Expedition, as large a number of Provincial Troops, as may be, for the Service of the ensuing Cam=paign, over and above what they Shall judge necessary, for the immediate defence of their own Province.–

And as I am now preparing, agreeable to His Majesty's Orders to me, to leave this Province with the Transports in order to join the Fleet and Succours from Europe; Tis necessary to acquaint You; that I shall leave Major General Webb, to Command at Albany, and the Forts, with a Body of His Majesty's Regular Forces, together with the Troops raised by the Northern Colonies, who will have the principal Command during my absence.–

And that in Consequence of the Plan

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settled, at the Meeting I had with the Governors of the Southern Provinces at Philadelphia I leave Col.° Stanwix with 5. Companys of the 1st. Battalion of the Royal American Regiment, to take post in the back Part of Pensilvania and to have the Command of the remaining Part of the Pensilvania Troops, The Troops raised in Maryland and the remaining part of the Troops, raised in Virginia.

And that I detach Lieu.t Col.° Bouquet with the other 5 Companys of that Battalion to South Carolina, who carries with him 200, of the Pensilvania Troops. 400, of the Vir:=ginian Troops, and I have ordered 200, of the Troops raised by North Carolina, to meet him in South Carolina, where he is to take the Command of His Majesty's Three Inde=pendent Companys, and likewise of the Troops raised by the Province of South Carolina, for the Security of that, and the most Southernly Provinces.

And in order to prevent any dispute hereafter, it will be necessary here to remind You, that at that meeting it was settled and is agreeable to His Majesty's Orders from His principal Secretary of State, that I should

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Supply the provincial Troops detached from Pen:
=silvania, Virginia, and North Carolina, to South Carolina; but that the Provincial Troops who remain and are employed for the defence of their Respective Provinces, should be entirely Supported and Maintained by the Provinces by whom they are raised.—

As the Plan we had Settled before the arrival of His Majesty's Orders by His principal Secretary of State, I hope, if punctually and Speedily executed on your part, will prevent any immediate Danger, I must recommend it to you in the most earnest manner that you will im:
=mediately, in Consequence of His Majesty's Orders signifyed to You, set about raising and getting in readiness a considerable Force to be ready to join and Support the Troops already agreed upon to be raised for the Publick Service.—

And that You will in the Mean time, give Orders, that the Militia of Your Province, should be properly Armed and furnish with Amunition, and have a Standing Order. to March to the Aid and Assistance of the Forces already appointed, on the Requisition of the Com:
=mander of them, and that this order should be more particularly given, and enforced in such

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parts of Your Province, as are most nearly Situat=ed to those Forces, on the Passes thro' which the Enemy can enter without waiting for any further Orders from You.

From your Zeal for the Publick Service, I cannot doubt of Your Complying with this Recommendation, and hope if the necessary orders are given and Strictly obeyed by them to re=ceive the same benefit from your Militia, that we did lately on the Enemys Attempt, on Fort William Henry, from the Militia, in the upper part of this Country.—

I shall send a Copy of this to Col.o Stanwix, to whom by Philadelphia, I desire You will communicate, the Orders You give, and to whom, that he may know what Officers of Your Militia to call upon, on an Emergency; And that You will likewise trans=mit a Copy to me at New York.—

I am with great Regard.

Sir &ca.—

I shall send a Copy of this to Col.o Stanwix to whom by Phil.a &ca.— was mention.d in the Letters to Gov.rs Denny Sharpe, and Dinwiddie.

In the Letters to Gov=nors Dobbs Lyttleton and Ellis, it was wrote.— I shall send a Copy of this to Lt. Col.o Bouquet to whom by Charles Town South Carolina &ca.—

Additional

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Additional Paragraph to Governor Denny's Letter.

The above is my Circular Letter; but as we can benefit nothing by the Militia of your Province, its necessary to add, That as the Constitution of Pensilvania, differs so widely from all the other Provinces, and in particu=lar in having no Militia Law in Force by which either the Service can be benefitted, in the mean time, or the Province protected in case of any sudden Attack, I must beg that You will, in Compliance with His Ma=jesty's Commands, apply in the most earnest manner to Your Assembly to collect at least 500. Men, to be added to those already agreed on to Supply the want of a Militia, which every other Province has so wisely provided for their defence.

I am sorry to be obliged to mention, that I am informed, that the 200. Men, that are to be furnished by Pensilvania, for the Publick Service, in South Carolina, are not ready to embark along with Lieut. Colo. Bouquet, from the delays You have met with in that Article, which has obliged me to give Colonel Stanwix Orders to remain with the Troops at Philadelphia, to assist You in getting

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those 200. Men forwarded to South Carolina, by which means they deprive themselves of the Assistance of the Regular Troops under him, who would otherwise now have been, in their back Country for their Protection.—

Endorsed Copy. / Letter from the Earl of Lou=down / to the Southern Governors. / New York May 5th 1757—

Circular.. { Pensilvania
Maryland
Virginia
North Carolina
South Carolina
Georgia— }

in the E: of Loudoun's Letter of / May 3d 1757

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Circular to the Governors of
New Jersey, Connecticut,
Rhode Island, Massachusets Bay,
& New Hamshire, New York.

New York May 3d. 1757.

Sir

As I have received the Copy of a Letter from One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State to You, signifying His Majesty's Pleasure that You should raise for the Publick Service the like number of Men you did last Year, Independent of those necessary for the Security of Your own Province.—

And as I am now Preparing agreeable to His Majesty's Orders to me, to leave this Province, with the Transports to Join the Fleet and Succours from Europe; And shall leave Major General Webb to Command at Albany and the Forts, with a Body of His Majesty's regular Forces, together with the Troops, raised by the Northern Colonies.

and as I had settled the Quota of men to be raised by You, and the Neighbour=ing Provinces, for the Operations of the Year, before the Secretary of States Letter arrived, I have some doubt if the addition now requir'd

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by that Letter, to Put them on the Foot of last Year, with respect to Number, can be raised and March'd to take the Field in due time to enter upon Service, therefore both to Comply with the Secretary of States Orders, and for the greater security of the Country, it appears to me absolutely necessary that the Militia of Your Province should be properly armed and furnish'd with Ammunition, and have a Standing Order to March to the Aid and Assistance of the Forces under the Command of Major General Webb at Albany, or the Commander of His Majesty's Forces in that Quarter, on His Requisition, and that this Order should be more Particularly given and enforced in such Part of Your Province as is most nearly Situated to those Forces, without waiting for any further Orders from You :—

From Your Zeal for the Publick Ser=vice I can have no doubt of Your comply=ing with this Recommendation and hope if the necessary orders are given and Strickly Obeyed by them, to reap the same benefit from Your Militia that we did lately on the Enemys Attempt on Fort William Henry,

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from the Militia in the Upper Part of this Country.—

I shall send Major General Webb a Copy of this to whom at Albany, I desire You will Communicate the Orders You give, and to whom, that he may know what Officers of Your Militia to call upon on any Emergency; and likewise Transmitt a Copy of them to me at New York I am &ca

In the Massachusets Letter add

I find there are Orders for Provisions Work=men and Materials for repairing Forts in Nova Scotia, to be sent from Boston, & that they have met with difficultys of sending them off, on Account of the Embargo, I must beg leave to acquaint You, that no Embargo can lay any restraint on Vessels employ'd in and for His Majesty's Service, and must beg you will give all Encouragement to People carrying Provisions to Halifax for supplying & refreshing the Fleet and Army, expected there every day.

P.S. To the Governor of Rhode Islands Letter

Tho' I have had Notice of the Motion of the Troops in the Pay of the other New England Governments, and that they are by this arrived, at or near the Places of their

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destination, yet I have not had the least account of those in the Pay of Your Governmt. being set out, therefore I must beg, that if they are not already moved, they may be Order'd forward with all Possible dispatch with their Camp Equipage, and every thing else necessary for them as its absolutely necessary for the Service.

Endorsed Copy | Letter from the Earl of Loudoun | to the Northern Governors | New York May 3d. 1757. |

Circular . . . { New Jersey
Connecticut
Rhode Island
Massachusets Bay
New Hampshire
New York _ }

in the E: of Loudoun's Letter of | May 3d 1757

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New York May 30th 1757.

Sir,

On the 11th, I had the honor to receive, by the Packet, the Duplicate of Your Letter of February 19th, with the Additional Instructions, and the Instructions relating to the devision of both Rear Admiral Holburne and Major General Hobson; and the Copies of Your Letters to the Northern and Southern Provinces.

You may depend on Our observance of His Majestys Instructions, and of my main=taining and Cultivating a good understand-ing and Agreement, between the Land and Sea Officers; and I have not the least doubt, of an entire Agreement between the Admirals and General Officers; I do assure You, nothing shall be wanting on my part, and as the Cause is the same, I flatter myself we shall Act as one Man. Sir Charles Hardy, to whom, I Acquainted You I had, on his offring to take the trouble, given the entire Management of the Transports, having Com=plained that Sailors, both from the Men of War and Transports, had deserted, in order to get on board the Privateers, from the great proffit they make there, of this

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Port alone, having brought in Prizes to the value of about two hundred thousand Pounds Sterling, and that those Sailors were harbour'd in Town, and that he could not retake them without any Assistance; I immediately Sur=rounded the Town with three Battalions, to prevent their making their Escape, whilst he Employed the Sailors in taking up the Deserters, who finding themselves overpower'd, made no resistance, and the whole was finished by Six in the morning, without any disturbance, and he got back his deserters, and I be=lieve some additional Strength to the Ships of War: without going into this Measure, we could not have Sail'd for want of Seamen.

And I have told Sir Charles Hardy, that whatever Troops he wants, to Strengthen his Men of War, or that whatever Assistance he wants, that depends on my department, he has but to Acquaint me, and he shall have it directly: I mention those things, as you will Judge better from Actions than from Words, of the manner in which the Service is carried on.

We have received Intelligence, by three Privateers, just arriv'd with five french Merchant

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Ships, whom they took; that on the 4th of May, Mons.r de Beaufremont, with the french Fleet, consisting of one Ship of 80. Guns, two of 74. two of 64, and a Frigate of 26. Guns, Sailed from Cape St François; that he took the Trade with him: They all denied that they had any Instructions from the Admiral, till last Night, that the Captain of the Magnifique, one of the Prizes arrived, who owns, that they had Instructions; that the Admiral took them under his Charge till they were passed the Cacases; that after that, he made them a Signal to make the best of their way to their Port; that the Admiral steer'd North and a point West; that at one time he made a Traverse to the East, which he believed was to deceive them as to his intended Voyage, as he next day saw him standing North and a Point West, which was on the 11th of May: this Informant further told Us, that his brother is Master of the Tonant; that he had told him that the Fleet was bound for Canada, (in which they include Louisbourg) and that the Fleet at Martinico was to follow them, con=sisting of One Ship of 70. Guns, two of 60. and two Frigates; and that they expected at

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Louisbourg, five Ships from France. Those Ships are full Man'd with Sailors; they were Sickly when they came to the Cape, but compleated them with Men out of the Merchant Ships; They have no Troops on board; and about three Months, or at most three Months and a half Provisions.

Other Accounts say That the Martinico Fleet are to Sail with the Trade, on the 25th of June.

From the French Admirals dismissing his Trade, and sending back his Pilots, as soon as he was clear of the Islands; from his leaving behind all the Officers and Sailors of the Greenwich, whom he had taken; and from the Course he Steer'd; We here have not any doubt, of his being gone to Louisbourg in consequence of Orders he receiv'd some time before he Sail'd from the Cape, by an Ad=vice Boat from France.

Our Situation here, is, the Troops all Embarked; and the last of the Ships, will probably get to the Hook, tomorrow or next day: for Convoy, we have one 50. Gun Ship, the Sutherland; We have two of 20. Guns, the Nightengale and Kennington; two Sloops, the Ferret and Vulture.

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I have had a Meeting with Sir Charles Hardy & Major General Abercromby, to consult what is proper to be done.

The french Fleet is probably gone on to Louisbourg; but if they have any notice of Us, and that they probably may; for neither the Orders from England, nor the Embargo in this Country, has prevented them from trading, both with the Enemy and the Neutral Ports: They may hover on the Coast for Us. If they Meet Us, there is an End of the Troops that go from hence; If they are gone to Louisbourg, I doubt Admiral Holborne is not arrived, from all the Accounts the Merchant Ships bring, except one from Newry, whose Intelligence must be nothing but the report there, and he differs so widely in his Ac=counts of the Winds from all the others, that I have no faith in him.

If the Admiral is not arrived, Mor. de Beaufremont has nothing to keep him in Port, and my risk is up by Halifax.

But on the other hand, if we remain here Idle, till we can hear from Halifax, which may be a Month, the Campaign is lost; therefore I have never hesitated a Moment,

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in my own Mind, and Sir Charles Hardy and Major General Abercromby unanimously Agree with me, that it is proper to run that risk, and Sail; in the mean time, we have wrote to the Admiral, and to the Commanding Officer of the Troops at Halifax; to Acquaint them with our Intelligence and resolutions, and have sent one sett of those Letters, by a Small Vessell thro' the Sound, and the other by Land, to Boston, to be forwarded from there in a Vessel, where they will find one of the Province Sloops, which brought me Letters from Mr. Lawrence, of the 18th. He had then, no Account of the Fleet from England, and his Letter to me, was occasioned by an Apprehension, from the Letter he receiv'd from You, and one from me, that Accompanied it, that it was expected, he should find Pro=visions for the Troops coming from England, for the whole Summer; but that is fully pro=vided for, as I have Provisions with me, for them, for Six Months compleat.

We have this day four Men arrived, who made their escape from Montreal, One of them was a Serjeant in the 50th. Regiment, and whilst there, was employed under the Commissary for Bread to the Troops; by the rations he deliver'd

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their Battalions are about 400. he acquaints me, that Provisions are scarce in Canada; that they had Accounts from all the Provinces, of the preparations for an Embarkation from hence; that he thinks they have changed their dis=position on that; two Regiments are Marched to their Forts of Crown Point and Tienderoga, with 300. Indians. he left Montreal May 7th: that the Language there, was, if we attacked Cape Breton, that would not prevent their Attacking our Forts; if we went to Quebeck, they must apply their whole Force to defend it; as, if that was taken, they could not live, but must all Submit and become Prison=ers of War.

And by a Man that was taken at No. 4, in August 1754, in profound Peace, Sold by the Indians to the French, for a Slave; I have Accounts, of many more in the same Situation: their manner of treating them, is, they first send out their Indians to take them, then they buy them from the Indians; then they make them ransom themselves, and after they have paid the Money, they detain them in the Country, which is this Man's Case: his Neighbour, who was taken with him,

has paid for himself, his Wife, and a Child
She was brought to bed of on the March, when
They were first taken, a Young Child that
was taken with them, and his Wives Sister,
two thousand two hundred Livres, and after that,
made him send for Six hundred Livres more,
all which they have taken, and kept him in
Jail two Years, since the Money was paid, and
there he remains still.

As I expect to have the honor of
writing to You again, in a few days, from Sea,
I shall only now add, that I am, with the
greatest Esteem and Regard,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant.

Loudoun.

The Right Honble William Pitt Esqr. /

Endorsed New York May 30th 1757 / Earl of
Loudoun. / R. July 6th.

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From on board His Majestys Ship Sutherland
at Sandy Hook 17th June 1757.

Sir,

Since the Letters I had the honor to write to You from New York, of which I send the Duplicates, I have to Acquaint You, that I have an Account from Mr. Laurence, dated at Halifax, May 21st. that Captain Bond arrived there that Morning, in the Speedwell Bomb-ketch; and that he had brought with him, Mr. Dugal Campbell the Engineer, and two Letters for me, the one from Admiral Holborne, of March 11th. the other from Major General Hobson, dated at London February 25th. without any Authentick Intelligence, further than that Captain Bond reports, that the Fleet was not Sail'd before he Sail'd from Falmouth, which was five Weeks before.

We have since that had a report, by a Ship from Liverpool, that the Fleet was seen off Kingsale, April 20th. and was to remain there, till the Transports from Cork joined them.

On the 5th. I came on board the Sutherland at the Hook, with Sir Charles Hardy, who had faln down two days before with the Fleet; and on the 6th. he sent out the Kennington

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of 20. Guns, and the Ferret Sloop, to Cruise about 50. or 60. Leagues to the S.S.E., and from thence to Range to the Eastward, as far as Nantucket Shoals; from which Cruise they re=turned this Morning, and have met with no=thing since they went out, but one Ship and some Whaling Vessels, one of whom in particular, had been as far out as the fishing Banks, but saw no Ships of the Enemy.

On the 8th, I receiv'd a Letter, by Ex=press, from Mr. Hancock at Boston, enclosing a Letter from Mr. Oliver, the Secretary of the Province, to him, containing an Account, of Mr. Lane, in a Fishing Vessel, having seen on the fishing Banks, on the 5th of May, a 50. Gun Ship, that Shewed him french Colours; And that on the 28th of May, he saw Six Sail of large Ships, which he judged to be Men of War, 20. Leagues from Halifax.

And that Captain Patten, from Cadix, saw likewise, in the morning of the 28th of May, Eight large Ships; that he saw nothing of them in the Evening, which makes it probable, that they came from the Southward. Enclosed you have a Copy of Mr. Olivers Letter.

Those Ships are probably the Ships from

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the Cape.

On this, I have had a Meeting with Sir Charles Hardy, and Major General Abercromby. On Considering the Letter I had the honor to receive from You, of the Intention of sending the Fleet very early, and that altho' we know by Captain Bond, that did not happen; yet, that probably the Admiral Sail'd from Portsmouth, with the same Wind that brought out Captain Bond from Falmouth, which is in some degree Confirm'd, by the reports brought by the Merchant Ships, that he was seen off Kingsale April 20th; So that, as Captain Bond was five Weeks on his passage, and arriv'd at Halifax May 21st; which is four weeks ago; and alowing him Nine weeks for his passage, and that probably, we shall be ten days or a fortnight in our passage; that gives the Admiral Eleven Weeks for to make his Voyage, by the time we can arrive there. On those Considerations, and the little time left for Operation this Campaign, from the Fleet and Succours being so late in arriving; I was clearly of Opinion, we ought to Sail next Morning: as I do not doubt Mr. Holborne, if he is to come

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this Year, must be on the Coast of Nova Scotia to Protect Us there: And we have taken every Precaution in our Power, by sending him two Expresses, to Acquaint him with our Informations and Motions. Sir Charles Hardy, as well as I, see there may be danger of Accidents hap-pening to Us, from the Enemy, but that we have taken all possible precaution to avoid them, and that if we do not now Sail, the Season will be so far advanced, nothing can be done; therefore I think it is a risk we now ought to run. And on this, Sir Charles Hardy unmoor'd.

In the Evening, we had another Meeting, at which we thought it adviseable, to wait for the Boston Post; on which, Sir Charles Hardy immediately sent a Pilot Boat to New York for the Letters, which return'd on the 19th in the Morning, and brought me Letters from Governor Lawrence, of June 1st, with the enclosed Account, of large Ships being seen off that Port, on May 29th, And Letters from Captn Rouse, to Sir Charles Hardy, giving an Account of the disposition he had made of his Ships, from whence it appears to me, That if they are the french Squadron, they were in their

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passage to Louisbourg; as none of the three Ships, Station'd to look for Mr. Holbornes Fleet, seems to have seen them; therefore I made no Change in my Opinion. The 19th, the Wind was foul, and on the 20th we Sailed. The Wind soon after freshen'd; and altho' we have gone with a very easy Sail, one of the Ordnance Ships, one of the Hospital Ships and a Transport, lost their foretop Masts, with whom the Admiral left the Ferret: And this day, June 21st, it has been great Rain and Hazy weather; but now in the afternoon, the Weather is better, and I think we shall have them all together again.

I shall not trouble You, with any of the Sea Intelligence of the French Fleet, as all that, will go from Sir Charles Hardy to the Admiralty; and as we live in one Cabin, and Correspond in all things, it would be but a repetition.

If any thing further happens in Our Voyage, before We send the Packet away, I shall mention it in the end of my Letter; and shall now add an Account of the Situation of Affairs, on that part of the Continent we have left.

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There is another Serjeant of Captain Rogers Ranging Company, that was taken at his Affair in January last, near Tienderoga re=turned from Montreal, with Eight Men. He reports, that the French having got an Account of our Preparations, had changed their disposition and were assembling all their Forces at Quebec, to defend their Capital. This I expected, as I am sure, they have every Intelligence the People can learn from Appearances, or by any other means; and this Intelligence goes from all places. I have Acquainted Mr. Webb with it; told him my Opinion, of the method of at=tacking the Forts of Tienderoga & Crown-Point, which I hope he may carry, if this Intelli=gence is true; and he can make himself certain of it, as their Indians seem to be retired; as Capt: Ogden, with the New York Ranging Company, has been up at Tienderoga, in order to take a Prisoner; he did not Succeed in that, but killed three of their Cen=tinels and an Officer, on the works of the Fort; and altho' they sent out a large body after him, on whom he gave one fire, and got home with his whole party; four of whom were Wounded.

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I have not yet received, from the bodies of Troops assembled in different places, the exact returns of the Provincials that make part of them; but I know the Massachusetts are short of their Numbers. The Provinces to the Northward, have all agreed, to have Militia ready to support in case of need, except the Jerseys, who have boasted very much, of having provided one thousand Militia: I send You enclosed, a Copy of the Extract of the Act, by which You will see, that it is only made to talk of, and not for Service; that by it, they infringe on the Kings Prerogative; take the whole Management out of the Governors hands; that there are so many requisits necessary, that they never can move in time, and are at liberty to return in twenty days; And that whilst they are in another Province, they are to be Judged by their own Law, independent of the Laws of the Province they may be in: And have, as they intend, left no Command of them, to the Commander in Chief: but if they were to join me, I believe they would find, they were mistaken.

The Provinces to the South of them,

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have behaved very Ill; Pensilvania have not now, raised near their number of Men agreed Upon; and have not sent the 200. Men to South Carolina. They have no Militia Law, and have refused to raise the Additional Number I desired of them, on the receipt of Your Letter of .... which arrived here May 1st. Their whole Attention seems to be, to usurp every part of the Prerogative, into the hands of the Assembly, and to disappoint every Plan of the Government.

Mr. Sharpe has been able to get the Province of Maryland, to raise the Men Stipu=lated; but in spite of him they have taken a very Extraordinary Step, which if not reme=died, must have very bad Consequences, and will take the Command of all Provincial Troops, entirely out of the Kings hands, or any General he Appoints; which is, that they have, after I had, as I Acquainted You in a former Letter, Appointed the Maryland Troops to be in Fort Cumberland, Voted, That they will allow no Pay, to any Officer that shall Command there, tho' it is in their own Province. If this extraordinary resolution of that Assembly does not meet with a Severe Check, it will immediately

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be followed thro' the whole Provinces.

Colonel Stanwix, has very properly, sent positive Orders to the Officer, to take that Command.

Virginia has not yet, near the number they were to furnish; They have sent with Lieu=tenant Colonel Bouquet, but 200. Men out of the 400. they were to have sent; They have sent none to the Fort, they have built in the Cherokee Country.

And Lieutenant Governor Dinwiddie, as I am inform'd, and have reason to believe; has broke the Concert made with the other Provinces, of keeping on the Embargo; and with=out my knowledge or Consent, has taken it off in Virginia, on the 8th of May: this never came to my knowledge till the 19th, the day before we Sailed, that I receiv'd a Letter from Governor Sharpe, with a Copy of the Order of the Council, dated May 5th, to the Collector of the Customs, granting liberty for Ships to Sail on the 8th by this, Mr Dinwiddie has broke thro' the Concert I have made, and been endeavoring to establish among the Provinces. By his suffering Ships to Sail, they may fall into the hands of the French Squadron, in their Cross from the Cape to the Northward,

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from whom they may get Intelligence of this Embarkation, which it does not appear, by all we can learn from the Prisoners, that they had before; And to me personally, it is surely, as cruel an Action as it was possible for one Man to do another; for from my having the honor, to be Governor of that Dominion, it will be believed, that the Lieutenant Governor would not have taken it upon himself, without my Concurrence: which is doing all that lay in his Power, to give me the Appearance of Partiality, which, whilst they see it in that light, must diminish that Weight, the Kings Commander in Chief ought to have.

The difficulty of Moving the Fleet and Transports, first, and then the certain Accounts of Mr. de Beaufremonts Fleet being out, whose own Ship alone is able to destroy all our Fleet here; and the Accounts, of the Intention of the Fleet from Martinico, being likewise ordered to follow him, has obliged us to continue the Embargo, till we were Sailed, to prevent their having Intelligence of Our Motions.

I send You enclosed, Copies of Intercepted Letters, I have received from Governor

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C.O.5. 48

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Lyttleton, with the Treaty they have made Pro=visionally, with the Indians, in case Mo^r. Vaudreuil approves of it; with two Letters in Cypher, which we cannot explain here.

From Georgia, I have strong remon=strances, of their danger, and total inca=pacity of making any resistance: Lieutenant Colonel Bouquet has Orders, to give them all the support in their Power; but they are too far from him, for him to be able to do any thing material for them; And as it is a Frontier Province; and tho' it produces nothing at present; It's being in the Enemys hands, would have very bad Effect on the Neighbouring Provinces:

I have, on Governor Ellis's strong Sollicitations, given him a Credit, on the Pay Master, for £850. Sterling, to support Rangers for their defence; which, with £150, that has been paid on the £200, which I Acquainted You Governor Reynolds had drawn on me, to support Rangers, and to which I have hitherto receiv'd no Answer from You.

Although I have no Instructions on this Subject, it appear'd to me, that without some Support, the Province was in danger of

being lost; And that it would be much less Expence to the Government to support it, than to retake it when lost, which is the reason of my ordering this advance of Money, during my Absence; but I must beg, that I may receive Orders how to proceed hereafter.

I have the honor to be, with great Respect,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient And

Most Humble Servant

Loudoun

The Right Honble. William Pitt.

Endorsed Earl of Loudoun / on board the Sutherland / at Sandy Hook 17th. June / 1757. / R4 20th July 1757.

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Schedule of the Papers, Enclosed and re=
=ferred to, in His Excellency the Earl of
Loudouns Letter, of the 17th June 1757;
To the Right Honble: William Pitt.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Andrew Oliver, to Thomas Hancock Esqr. of Boston; June 4th 1757. containing Intelligence.

Depositions of the Master &ca. of the Brig Cornelia. 1st. June 1757; enclosed in Govr. Lawrence's Letter of the same day.

Extract of a Law of the Colony of New Jersey, relative to their Militia: 3d. June 1757.

sent to Mr. Willes ..... Copy of a Letter, in Cypher, from Mos: de Kerlerec, Governor of Louisiana, to the french Ministry: New Orleans 12th december 1756.

Idem, of another Letter from do. to do. 13th December 1756.

Idem of the Preliminary Articles of Peace, between the said Governor & the Cherokees, 23d. Novr. 1756. enclosed in the foregoing Letter.

sent to Mr. Willes ..... Idem of another Letter, in Cypher, from the said Governor, to the french Ministry, January 28th. 1757.

Idem of another Letter, from do. to do., 30th. January 1757.

Extracts from several Letters found

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on board the Revenge, a french Vessel, taken by His Majestys Sloop Jamaica.

NB these Six last Papers were Intercepted, and sent to His Lordship, by Governor Lyttleton, of South Carolina.

Endorsed Schedule of the Papers, Enclosed & referrd / to, in the Earl of Loudouns Letter, of / June 17th: 1757, to the Right Honble: / William Pitt.

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Copy of a Letter from Mr. Andrew Oliver to Thomas Hancock Esqr. of Boston; bearing date Saturday Evening 4th June 1757.-

Sir,

Mr. Lane arriv'd Thursday the 2d Inst at Cape Ann from the Fishing Banks: Saw there on the 5th of May a Ship of 50. or 60. Guns, which he took for an English Man of War untill he came within a mile of her when She hoisted French Colours.- Lane made his Escape, and on Saturday 28th May saw Six Sail of Men of War standing as he then imagined for Halifax about 20. Leagues distant from it.

Yesterday arriv'd Captn. Pattin from Cadiz. Saturday 28th Inst. being then in the Latitude of Cape Ann and about 150. or 160. Leagues to the Eastward he discover'd 8. Sail of Men of War early in the morning about 5. or 6. Leagues to the Eastward of them. He saw nothing of them the Evening before, which makes it look probable that they came from the Southward. He then took them for English Ships bound to Halifax, being about 35.

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Leagues distant from it: but there being no Wind, could not See what Course they Steer'd, it presently came up foggy and a Breeze of Wind, So he left them.

I had this last Account from Captn. Pattins Mouth; and the other from a Gentle=man who came to Town last Night from Cape Ann.

Endorsed Intelligence in a Letter from Mr. | Andrew Oliver to Thomas Hancock Esqr. | of Boston. | 4th June 1757. | in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of | June 17th 1757. | 1.

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Halifax Nova Scotia
1st June 1757 —

Robert Smith of Philadelphia Mariner Master of the Brigantine Cornelia, being solemn:=ly Sworn upon the holy Evangelists maketh Oath and deposeth as follows Vizt. That being bound to this Port he fell in to the East=:ward about fifteen Leagues from Cape Sam:=borough on Sunday the 29th of May 1757. and about nine O'Clock A.M. saw seven Sail of Ships to the Southward, distance about four Leagues, whereupon he stretched to the Westward and about two O'Clock P.M. he fell in with a Snow and a Brig which gave Chace to him; he then tacked and stood to the Eastward in hopes to join the Ships he saw in the Morning as he then took them to be part of the English fleet and about five O'Clock fell in with the same Seven Sail of Ships who were then lying too with their Topsails to the Masts and Continued so till he came within about three Leagues off them and then they made Sail and steered E.N.E. with french Colours flying. At half an Hour after seven he was with:=in four or five Miles distance from the

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nearmost of them, he judged them then to be large Ships and Men of War - The Wind being at South he hauled up E. S. E and in his Opinion the Ships did the same - They continued their Course in sight till eight o'Clock at Night, and then it came on thick Weather and he lost sight of them - And further this Deponent saith not.

Robt. Smith.

Robert Paton Mate of the Brigantine Cor:=nelia being solemnly sworn as above Deposeth the same in substance with Captain Smith with this additional Circumstance that two of the seven Ships had White Flags at the main topgallant Mast heads and a third had a White Ensign - And further this Deponent saith not.

Robt. Paton.

Joseph Haislop Mariner on Board the Brig Cornelia, and the rest of the Sailors on Board said Brig having all been Sworn and seperately examined depose in substance with the Captain and Mate

Chas. Lawrence

Endorsed Depositions of / The Master &ca of the Brig / Cornelia / With Govr Lawrces letter of June 1st / 1st June 1757 in the E. of Loudoun's Letter of / June 17th 1757 / R. June 19th / 2

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Copy

Extract of a Law of the Colony of New Jersey passed June 3d. 1757. entitled.

A Supplementary Act to the Act entitled an Act for better settling and regulating the Militia of this Colony of New Jersey for the repelling Invasions, and suppres=sing Insurrections and rebellions; As also for continuing such parts and Clauses of the said Law as are not altered and amended by this Act_

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if either of the Neigh=bouring Provinces of New York or Pensylvania, shall happen to be attack'd by an Army of the Enemy, within one Year from the Publi=cation of this Act, & shall request the Aid and Assistance of this Colony, in such their Distress, upon Application of the Governor or Commander in Chief thereof for the Time be=ing, with the Advice of His Council; It shall and may be lawful for the Governor or Com=mander in Chief, by and with the Advice and Consent of His Majesty's Council of this Colony, upon certain Advice of such Attack as aforesaid, to order a Detatchment

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of so many of the Militia of this Colony, as they the said Governor & Council in their Discretion shall think expedient, and the Neces=sity of the Case may require, to march into either of the said Neighbouring Provinces of New York or Pensylvania, to their Aid & Assist=ance as aforesaid, Provided Nevertheless, that it shall & may be lawful for every such Detatchment to return into this Colony in the Space of Twenty Days after their Leaving the Same, unless it shall be thought necessary by an Act of General Assembly of this Colony, to continue the said Detatchment longer in the said Service. And the Detatchment of the said Militia shall be made in the fol=lowing Manner, to wit, upon Request & cer=tain Advice of such an Attack as aforesaid, the Governor & Commander in Chief by and with the Advice and Consent of the Council as aforesaid, shall order so many Men (not exceeding One Thousand in the Whole) to be enlisted out of the several Regiments in this Colony, as shall be sufficient to make up the Detatchment so ordered as aforesaid, equally and in proportion to the Number of Men of which each Regiment shall consist, together

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with proper Officers suitable to the said Detatch=ment, and the whole to be commanded by a Colonel to be appointed by the Governor or Commander in Chief out of the Militia Colonels or other Field Officers, and the Governor shall immediately issue his Warrants to the Colonels or Commanders of the said several Regiments of Militia of this Colony, commanding each of the said Colonels or Commanders forthwith to summons the Captains of each of the Com=panies of his said Regiment to meet to=gether at such Time and place as the said Colonel or Commander shall appoint, & each of the said Captains so summoned and appearing as aforesaid, shall make out a List of such and so many Men of his said Company as shall be wanted to make up a proportionable Number of the Militia so ordered to march as aforesaid; & the said List being approved of by the Colonel of the Regi=ment from which they are draughted shall be returned to the Commanding Officer of such Detatchment, and every person so entered upon the List as aforesaid, shall appear him=self (or provide an able Bodied Man to appear in his Room) at the Time & Place

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appointed by the Commander of the said Detatchment for the General Rendezvous, compleatly armed with one good Musket or Fuzee, well fixed, a Sword or Bayonet, a Cartouch Box or Powder Horn, on Pound of Powder, and twenty four sizeable Bullets. And for an Encouragement for every person inlisted to go upon the said Service, there shall be paid to the Officers and Men so detatched as aforesaid (on their Return into this Colony) during their Continuance in the Service, the Sums following, to wit, to the Colonel or Commander of the said Detatchment the Sum of Six Shillings per Day, to each Captain the Sum of four Shillings per Day, to each Subaltern Commission Officer the Sum of three Shillings per Day, to each Seryeant and Corporal the Sum of two Shillings per Day, and to each private Man the Sum of one Shilling and eight pence per Day. Provided always, that either of the said Provinces so requesting such aid & Assistance as aforesaid, shall provide good & sufficient provisions for the said Detatchment, during their Continuance in the said province with Carriages, Quarters, and such other Necessaries as may be wanted for

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the Conveniency of their Marching & Encamp=
=ment. And in Case either of the said
provinces shall neglect or refuse to make
such Provision as aforesaid, that then and
in such Case it shall and may be Law=
=ful for such Detatchment to return immediate=
=ly into this Colony, any Law or Order to
the Contrary in any wise notwithstanding; And
that the power hereby given, & directions in
this Clause, shall not be and remain in
force longer than one Year; And the said
Detatchment of the Militia are hereby made
subject to the Rules, orders, & Commands of
their own Officers. And during the Con=
=tinuance of the said Detatchm^t in either of
the Neighbouring provinces aforsaid, the Of=
=ficers & Soldiers are hereby made liable to
such pains & penalties for Disobedience to
Command, Neglect of Duty, and other
Offences, of the like Nature, as shall be
inflicted upon them by the discretionary sen=
=tence of a Court Martial composed of their
own Commissioned Officers, or the Majority
of them, & no other Officers whatsoever;
at which Court Martial the Second Officer
in Command of the said Detatchment shall

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always preside. Provided always, that no such pains and penalties shall extend to the taking of Life or Member.—

A True Extract compared

pr. Abra: Clark junr. Clk Assem:—

Endorsed Copy. | Extract of a Law of the Colony of | New Jersey passed June 3d. 1757.| in the E: of Loudoun's Letter of | June 17th. 1757|
3.

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No. 126.

Seconde.-

Monseigneur,

Il y a long Tems que la Nation Cherakis, composée de 3500 Hommes, portans Armes, ou environ, fait porter icy des Parolles de Paix et d'Alliance avec les François, mais plus particulierement encore depuis 3 Ans. J'ay même eu l'honneur de vous en rendre Compte par mes Depêches No. 104. du 1er Avril, et celle No. 119 du 24. Juillet; la premiere vous est parvenüe par la Flutte du Roy de Mes=sager, et la derniére par la Voye de St. Do=mingue sous le Couvert de Mr. de Chastenoy, l'une et l'autre, Monseigneur, ont pû vous de montrer de quelle Consequence il étoit de nous lier du même Interest avec cette Nation, et combien cette Alliance seroit prejudicable aux Anglois sur tout à la Caroline et à son Territoire.

Comme toutes ces Demarches de la part des Cherakis se sont faites particuliere=ment pendant les Troubles qui agitoient le Canada, et les Provinces de la Nelle Angleterre, et que S. M. Britanique paroissoit (quoy que sans Fondement) s'expliquer au Vis à Vis

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de la France sur le ton d'usurpation sus ses Domaines. J'ai toujours temporisé et crû devoir mettre en Usage toute la Moderation que vous ne cessés de me préscrire de la part de Sa Majesté, pour éviter tout Sujet de desunion entre les puissances aujourd'huy Belligerentes, et c'est a ces Causes que j'ay etudié bien long Tems de repondre serieusement à la paise que demandoient les Cherakis, attendû que la plus grande partie des Villages que forment cette Nation reside dans les Mon=tagnes qui sont sensées devoir servir de Limite entre la France et l'Angleterre, trois Villages de cette Nation sont Même établis au dela des dittes Montagnes.

Cette Consideration reflechie de ma part n'avoit pour But que d'éviter tout Sujet de Discution entre des Monarques sincerement animés du Desir de la paix, et a ne pas fournir D'Obstacles aux Negotiations dont vous m'avez faite l'honneur de me prevenir par votre Dé=pêche du 17. Fevrier 1755. mais ces Egardes ayant du cesser par la Declaration de Guerre du Roy d'Angleterre contre la France; J'ay jugé devoir profiter de la Bienveillance des Cherakis, qui depuis prés d'un An ont redoublé

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d'empressement pour la Paix qu'ils desirent; il est vray que j'ay mangé cette bonne Volonté par touts les Moyens et les Antours que j'ay crû les plus propres à les entre=tenir dans de pareils Sentiments par l'Entre=mise de quelques Sauvages affidés de la Nation Charaonons qui m' ont enfin amené icy le 15 du Mois Dr. Cinq Deputés Chera=kis en demande de paix et d' Alliance. Ces Deputés sont des 9 principaux Villages de la Nation, établis en deça des Montagnes Apa=laches et tous les autres sont pour l'ordinaire entrainés par les premieres, et comme j'ay debutté au Vis a Vis des Deputés par dire que je n'ecouterois pas leur harangue si elle n'étoit de la part de toute la Nation, ils m'en ont assuré Eux mêmes.

Je ne vous repetteray pas icy, Mon=seigneur, l'Etendüe de leurs Harangues qui toutes expriment des Sentiments fort affectueux pour les François que je crois cependant que nous devons en majeure partie aux dif=ferents Succés que nous avons en Canada, et à la reünion de toutes les Nations du nord en nôtre Faveur.

C'est donc en Consequence de leur

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Volonté decidée de se donner à nous, et pour arreter l'Execution des projets des Anglois, que je les ay écoutés favorablement, sans cependant decider diffinitivement sur la Ratification de la paixe qu'ils demandent jusques à que 4 de leurs Chefs et autant de considerés n'ayent été en Canada porter les mêmes parolles à Mr. de Vaudreüil, pour lequel je leurs ay remis une Lettre detaillée sur cette Affaire avec une Copie des Articles preliminaires de paix dont je suis convenu avec eux, aux Con=ditions Cependant que la ditte paixe n'aura Lieu qu'autant que les Interets des François du Nord, et ceux de toutes les Nations du même Continent pourront se concilier avec ceux de cette partie, ce que j'ay soumis a la Decision de Monsr. de Vaudreüil. Precaution de Droit et d'autant plus indispensable que par une Lettre de ce General en Datte du 27 Fevr. 1755. il me mande de differer de re=pondre aux Sollicitations des Cherakis jusqu'à son Arrivée en Canada, ou il sera a meme de voir si les Intérets du Nord pourront se concilier avec cette proposition de paix.

Mais voila pris de 2 Ans d'Ecoules sans qu'il m'ait ecrit à ce Sujet.

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Ils ont facillement compris la Necessité de cet Arrangement, et y ont consenty, mais ils ont aussi exigé de ma part, que je leur promette qu'à leur Retour icy de Canada, qui sera vers la Fin de Juillet 1757. (Si cette paix a Lieu, comme il y a tout Lieu de l'esperer) Je leurs envoyeray des traiteurs avec toutes les Marchandises necessaires pour leurs Besoins. Cette demande de leur part m'a paru d'autant plus juste, que rejettant l'Anglois pour se donner à nous, il est de droit qu'ils soyent assurés que nous leurs fournirons les Besoins qu'ils tiroient de L'Anglois, et dont ils ne peuvent se passer.

Et qu'en attendant cette Ratification je leur fourniray les Munitions des Guerre dont ils pourront avoir Besoin, promesse que je ne leur ay fait qu'autant que je seray bien sur qu'ils seront en Guerre ouverte avec les Anglois, et après qu'ils auront fait sur eux quelque Coup d'éclat et de marque qui puisse me prouver qu'ils y vont de bonne Foy et la sincerité de la Demarche qu'ils viennent de faire icy.

Voila, Monseigneur, ou je suis aujourd'huy avec la Nation Cherakis, may j'ay l'honneur

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de vous prévenir, que je ne compte sur les Sau=
=vages qu'aprés des faits, et je crains toujours
qu'au Retour de ces Deputés dans leur Village
ils n'y trouvent quelque Revolution de differents
partis suscités par les Anglois, qui à l'Occasion
du Depart des dits Deputés pour se rendre
icy n'auront pas manqué d'en informer le
Gouverneur de la Caroline, qui aura fait jouer
tous les Ressorts qu'il aura pû imaginer pour
faire Echouer le Projet de paix, qui à la
Verité ne peut que mettre la Caroline a deux
doigts de sa perte.-

Tel est l'Etat actuel des Choses, et ma
Façon de penser sur le Compte des hommes
rouges, dont on ne peut jamais se flatter
d'etre seur, si on n'est pas a même de satis:
=faire abondament à leurs Besoins.

Sy cependant cette Negotiation peut se
terminer, comme j'ay Lieu de l'esperer, il
est indispensable, Monseigneur, que vous ayes
pour agreable de donner vos ordres pour nous
faire passer les Marchandises necessaire pour
cette Nation en Augmentation des Envois ordin:
=aires, qu'on ne nous fait pas, mais il n'y
a pas de Temps a perdre si tout reüssit puis:
=que je puis me trouver comme je l'ai dit

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cy-dessus obligé de remplir les promesses que je leur ay fait pour le Mois de Juillet 1757 et dans le cas ou je me trouverois dans l'Impossibilité d'y satisfaire. il n'est pas douteux que les Anglois ausquels cette Nation seroit forcée de se restituer ne profitent d'une Circonstance aussy désavantageuse pour nous, pour faire comprendre aux Cherakis que le François est pauvre, et qu'il n'a que les Marchandises qu'il tire de chéz eux; voila les Discours les plus familliers que l'on tient aux Sauvages. qui en pareille Circonstance se trouveroient comme forcés d'y ajouter Foy

La Nouvelle Angleterre n'ayant plus pour elle les Cherakis, se trouvera dans une Circonstance aussy critique que la notre sera avantageuse, et J'ose croire que ces derniers forceront même les Chikachas a se ranger de leur party; C'est même ce qu'ils m'ont fait entrevoir, ils ont aussy harangué les Kaouitas, Talapouches, Kachetas, Abekas Nations comprises suos le Nom d'Alibamoux Talapouches. pour accepter le même Cassetête, et je Croirois volontiers que les Alibamoux sacrifieront a des Sollicitations peut-être un peu forcées la Neutralité

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qu'elles ont observé jusqu'à present entre nous,
et les Anglois, et dans ce bas j'entrevois une
grande partie de la Nouvelle Angleterre a deux
doigts de sa perte.—

Je viens de vous exposer, Monseigneur,
la position ou je me trouve avec les Cherakis;
j'aurois bien des Details de la derniere Con:
=sequence a vous faire a ce Sujet, qu'il m'est
impossible de mettre en Chiffre n'ayant cette
Nation que de hier, & le Battiment que vous
porte cette Depêche partant aprés Demain, mais
je charge Le S. Duplessis, ancien Lieutenant
du Nombre des meilleurs de cette Colonie, et
qui vous presentera cette Lettre, de vous dire de
bouche ce que je ne dois pas même confier
au Papier. Je vous demande pour cet Of:
=ficier vos Bontés et votre protection.—

Cy Joint sont les Articles preliminaires
de la Paix proposée entre nous et les Cherakis.

Je suis avec un profond Respect

Monseigneur,

Votre trés. humble et trés

Obeissant Serviteur

Kerlerec.—

à la Nouvelle Orleans

Le 13 Xbre. 1756—

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Endorsed Copy of an intercepted Letter from Mr. / Kerelec to / New Orleans, Dec.r 13. 1756. / in the E: of Loudoun's Letter of / June 17th 1757 / 5

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C-04,45.

Cherakis.-

Articles et Conditions preliminaires de paix entre les François et la Nation Cherakis, proposées par Mr. de Kerlerec, Gouverneur de la Louisianne aux Chefs et Considerés que la ditte Nation a deputé et envoyé a la Nouvelle Orleans pour luy demander la ditte paix et l'Etablissement d'une Traite chez eux pour fournir a Leur Besoins.-

Article. 1.-

Les Deputés Cherakis ont promis au Nom de toute leur Nation de se conformer exactement au present Article.-

Les Chérakis doivent promettre de bonne Foy d'enterrer leur cassetête, et d'empecher fidellement qu'aucun Guerrier de leur Nation se trouve dans aucun party d'Ennemis, qui frapent sur le François.

Article 2.

Les Deputés ont promis de ramener nos Prisonniers, qu'ils ont dit être Soldats et Deserteurs des Illinois a Condition neanmoins, qu'il ne leur

Mr. de Kerlérec, Grand Chef des François, de la partie du Sud et pere commundes hommes rouges du même Continent, demande la Restitution des prisonniers

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seroit fait aucun Mal; et persistant dans cette De=mande, Mr. De Kerlerec leur a accordé leur Grace pous le bon plaisir de S.M. en exigeant de son Costé, qu'à l'avenir ils arreter=oient et remettroient tous ceux qui tomberoient entre leur Mains, et les rendroient a nôtre Discretion et sans aucune Condition. ce qu'ils ont formellement promis.-

Ont repondû qu'ils étoient envoyés pour demander la paix au Nom, et de la Part de tout le Nation.-

Ont promis de se con=former au Contenû du present Article et d'en=voyer des Deputés à Mr. de Vaudreuil, Grand Chef du Nord, dés leur Rétour dans la Nation; et Mr de

François, que sont aux Cherakis, au Nombre d'une Fille, et de quatre Soldats dont deux doivent être de Rétour de la Virginie, et le tout sans Dessein, bien entendû cependant que si il survenoit quelq=ques Difficultés de la part du Grand Chef du Nord pour la paix (ce qu'il ne prevoit pas) les dits prisonniers seront sensés traités de bonne Foy, et payés la Valeur ordinaire des prisonniers à Titre de Rançon.-

Article. 3.-

Que cette Paix ne peut avoir Lieu avec une Partie des Chéra=kis a moins que ce ne soit avec toute la Nation entiere.-

Article 4.

Que quatre Chefs des plus notables, et autant de Considerés de la Nation Cherakis, partiront aussitôt que les Deputés icy pré=sents seront de Rétour à leur Village, pour Monréal ou Quebec, dans l'un ou l'autre de ces deux

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Kerlerec leur a Remis en consequence le Jour de leur Depart une Lettre pour ce General.—

Endroits ou sera Mr. de Vaudreüil Auquel ils porteront la même pa=rolle de paix, et telle qu'ils l'ont portée au Chef de Guerre François des Alibamoux, et à Mr. de Kerlerec, Gouverneur de la Louisianne, qui les chargera d'une Lettre pour Mr. de Vaudreüil en bonne parolle pour laquelle il expli=quera les Demarches des Chera=kis, pour parvenir a la paix qu'ils desirent.—

Article 5.

Les Deputés ont representé qu'ils comptent que les Tchikachas se reünniront à eux pour fraper sur les Anglois, qu'en ce cas ils ne leur feroient pas la Guerre, mais que s'ils refusoient de prendre leur cassetête contre les Blonds, qui veulent s'emparer de leur Terre, ils étoient des hommes, et savoient ce qu'ils devoient faire.—

Que les Cherakis feront la Guerre aux Tchikachas, qui ont toujours eü l'Esprit mal fait et qui sont de tout têmps les Ennemis declarés des François et des hommes rouges Amis et Alliés des François.—

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Article 6.-

Les Anglois n'ayant declaré la Guerre aux François, que parce que les François veullent proteger et defendre les Hommes rouges leurs Enfans, Freres et Alliés; Les Cherakis doivent regarder les Anglois comme leurs Ennemis, d'autant plus qu'ils ont eux mêmes tout à Craindre des Anglois, qui ne proposent de bâtir des Forts sur leur Terre que pour s'en emparer plus facilement, et les rendre Esclaves, Eux, leurs Femmes, et leurs Enfans ainsi que leur Vieillards.-

Ont repondû que les Anglois avoit le Coeur mau=vais, et que les regardant comme leurs Ennemis et ceux des François, ils fraperoient sur eux, et les Chasseroient au dela des Montagnes.-

Article 7.-

Que les Cherakis detruiront et pilleront au Rétour de leurs Deputés icy présens, et porteurs de Parolle, le Magazin Corné, que les Anglois viennent de=tablir chez eux pour servir de depôt à l'Artillerie, aux Mu=nitions, ferrures, et Outils qu'ils ont deja envoyé pour la Construction

Ont repondû et promis qu'à leur Arrivée chez eux ils forceroient les Anglois qui s'y trouveront a se retirer de leur Nation, et detruiront la Maison de Force qu'ils y ont deja bâti, et ne permet=tront jamais qu'ils fassent

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des Forts ni des Bat:
-teaux pour gatter leur
Riviere. –

des Forts, et des Batteaux qu'ils projettent. Que quand aux 19 Soldats, et un Serjent Anglois qui tiennent Garison dans ce Fort pour la Garde de ce Depôt; les Chérakis doivent et seront tenûs de les sommer de sortir de la Nation, et s'ils ne le font de gré ils les y contraind:-ront par la Force; aprés quoy les Cherakis ne souf:-friront aucune Entreprise sur leurs Terres, et encore moins d'y etablir aucun Fort, mais repousseront en frapant sur les Anglois toutes celles qu'ils pourroient tenter contre les François. –

Article 8. –

Ont repondû que de:-venûs les Enfans des Francois ils ne permettront jamais que les Anglois viennent gatter leur Terre ni leur Riviere, pour faire du mal aux François

Aprés cette declaration faite aux Anglois de la part des Cherakis, les Cherakis doiv:-ent dés ce Moment regarder les Anglois comme leurs Ennemis, et repousser par la Hache, et le Cassetête la moindre Entreprise

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aujourd'huy leurs Freres et Leurs Allies, et que des leur Rétour à leur Village, ils vont aller en Guerre et Fraper sur les Anglois.–

qu'ils voudroient faire sur leur Nation, soit en y faisant passer des Troupes ou autrem.t et pour donner aux François des preuves de leur Attachement, Les Cherakis doivent former et faire sortir des partis frequens, contre les Anglois pour fraper sur eux, puisqu'ils ont juré la Destruction des Hommes rouges, et celle des François, leurs Amis, et leurs Alliés.

Article. 9.–

Les Deputés Cherakis ont repondû qu'ils etoient de la bonne Reception que leur avoit fait M.r de Kerlérec leur pere, et des promesses qu'il leur fait par le present Article pour les procurer les Marchandises necessaires pour eux, leurs Femmes, et leurs Enfans; et ont ajoutté qu'ils esperoient qu'elles ne leur manqueroient pas aprés

M.r de Kerlerec, Grand Chef de la Nouvelle Orleans, pere commun des hommes rouges du même continent promet aux Chérakis, si la paix se termine, comme il l'espere, de prendre tous les Arrangemens, convenables pour fournir à la Traité de la Nation, le plus abondament qu'il sera possible; mais les Cherakis doivent faire Attention que devenant aujourd'huy les Enfans des François ils en augmentent le Nombre; et qu'une Augmentation

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d'Enfans demande aussy une Augmentation de Marchandises; Qu'il faut par Consequent du Têmps, et qu'ils prennent patience pour que leur pere Commun fasse venir D'au déla du Grand Lac, celles qui seront necessaires pour leurs Besoins.—

que Le Grand Chef du Nord auroit mêlé sa parolle avec la sienne.—

Article .10.—

Qu'en attendant la Reponse et le Consentément de Mr. de Vaudreüill, grand Chef du Nord, pour la dite pause, Mr. de Kerlérec aura neanmoins soin d'envoyer au poste des Alibamouxc, de la poudre, des Balles, Cassetête, des bouteaux bucherons, des Pierres a Fusil, et du Vermillon, pour recompenser la Valleur des Guerriers Cherakis, et L'Attachement que cette Nation prouvera avoir pour les François, mais ce ne sera qu'aprés qu'il aura apris qu'elle aura Chassé de Chez elle tous les Anglois, et qu'elle leur aura declaré la Guerre, par une Action de Valleur et d'Eclat.—

Ont repondû a Mr. de Kerlerec qu'ils Voyoient bien par la promesse qu'il leur fait d'envoyer en attendant La Reponse du grand Chef du Canada au poste des Allibamoux des Marchandises de Guerre pour leur Besoins, qu'il étoient un bon pere, et ont promis de s'en servir fortement contre ses Ennemis, et les Leurs, qui sont les Anglois.—

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Article. 11.–

Quand la paix entre les Chérakis et les Francois sera terminé, La Nation Chérakis s'en=gage et promet d'accom=pagner et escorter les Francois qui iront porter leurs Besoins, par un Nombre con=sidérable de bons Guerriers, s'ils en sont requis, le tout au Moyen du Payment dont la Nation sera convenüe degré agré avec les Traiteurs François

Ont promis que quand on établira la Traite chez eux, ils empecherônt qu'il ne soit fait aucune in=sulte ni aucun Fort aux Traiteurs François, et de faire escorter les Convois de Marchandizes par de bons Guerriers, quand ils en seront requis –

Article. 12.–

Quand aux differentes Nations des hommes rouges de ce Con=tinent, Allies, Enfans, et Amis des François particulierement leurs anciens Amis les Tchaktas, et Alibamoux, Mr. de Kerlérec, leur Grand Chef promet de faire tout ce qui dependra de luy pour qu'elles ecouttent la parolle qu'il va leur faire porter, qui sera de n'avoir qu'une même Hache pour fraper sur les

Les Deputés ont repondû a Mr. de Kerlérec qu'il sera bon qu'il fasse annoncer comme il le leur promet a tous les hommes rouges amis des François, que les Chérakis ont retrouvé l'Esprit, et étoient devenûs comme eux les Enfans, et les Alliés des François, en ajouttant qu'ils alloient partir pour declarer la Guerre aux Anglois,

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et venger par leur Teste la mort de leurs Freres, qu'ils ont tué. Et ont prié en même Temps Mr. de Kerlérec leur pere d'ecrire une forte parolle a Mr. De Vau=dreüil pour que celle qu'ils vont luy porter ne tombe pas a Terre, et afin qu'il oublie comme luy leurs Egare=mens puis qu'ils veul=ent toûjours tenir la Main du François qui est bon, et qui a le Cœur bien fait.–

Anglois, qu'un meme bassetête, et une même Micoüenne que les Chérakis. Mr. de Kerlérec Leur pere Commun des Hommes rouges de la partie du Sud, promet au Surplus aux Chéra=kis d'ecrire en leur Faveur à Mr. de Vaudreüil, Grand Chef de la partie du Nord, et afin que ce grand Chef ecoutte favorablement la parolle qu'ils doivent luy faire porter, et qu'il ratifie la paix qu'ils demandent, il luy fera Connoitre que La Nation Chérakis a tou=jours bien traité les Prison=niers qu'elle a fait sur les François –

Tous les douze Articles preliminaires de paix cy dessus enoncés et proposés par Mr. de Kerlerec, Governeur de la Louisianne, et qui ont été bien espliqués et duément inter=prêttés aux Cherakis, et auxquels les dits Chérakis ont hautement acquiessé, seront neanmoins

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remis a la Decision de Monsr. de Vaudreuil, Governeur General de la Nouvelle France pour y être par luy ajoutté ou diminué ainsi qu'il le jugera a propos pour le Bien du Service du Roy, les dits Articles ne devant avoir Lieu qu'autant qu'il jugera que les Interests de la partie du Nord de la Nouvelle France, et ceux de celle cy pourront se consilier pour la Ratification de cette paix proposée.

Fait et arretté par nous Governeur pour le Roy dans nôtre Hotel du Gouvernement à la Nouvelle Orleans le 23 Novre. 1756. Signé Kerlérec, et ont aussy signé comme presens et commandés pour se trouver aux assemblée tenües à ce Sujet, Belille major, Derneville, Duvergé, Volant, Gasmond, Lavergne, Raguel, Le Bretton, Baudouin jesuitte, Dorville, Dutillet, Chabert, Grandmaison, Chr. Makart, neyon, Trudo, Marquis, St. Martin, Duplessis, Vaugine, et Monin.

Je certifie avoir interpretté en Termes clairs et intelligible les douze Articles prélimin=aires de paix cy dessus proposés par Mr. de Kerlerec, Gouverneur aux Deputés Chérakis, comme aussy fidellement rendu les reponses faites par les dits Deputés, qui sont telles qu'ils les ont faites a costé des susdits Articles, En Foy

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dequoy j'ay signé le present, à la Nouvelle Orleans le 23.d Novembre 1756. Signé. Can. ||.

Endorsed Copy. | Preliminary Articles of Peace | between the French & Cherokees. — | New Orleans. 23. November. 1756. — | in the E: of Loudoun's Letter of | June 7th 1757. | 6

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No. 134.

Premiere

Monseigneur.

J'ay l'honneur de vous envoyer Cy joint Le Duplicata des préliminaires de paix que j'ay arreté avec les Cherakis, Et dont je vous ay deja instruit par ma Lettre du 13. X^bre^ dernier.//

Vous verrés, Monseigneur, par L'Article 9. des dits Preliminaires que suposé que M. de Vaudreüil Général du Canada adhère a la paix demandée par cette Nation qu'il est de toute Necessité, (Non Seulement pour nous l'attacher solidement, mais encore pour ne point l'irriter et nous faire mepriser) que je sois paré à tout Evénément pour fournir à leurs Besoins, comme je m'y suis engagé par le dit Article.//

Personne n'est plus circonspect que moy, Monseigneur, pour les Interêts du Roy. Je sens avec Regret qu'on la constitué dans ce pais dans bien d'inutilles Depenses; mais Je ne puis m'empecher de vous représenter qu'il est indispensable que vous donniés vos Ordres précis, pour qu'il soit envoyé au plutot dans la Co=lonie, c'est a dire d'icy au Mois de Juillet

prochain, le Double de Marchandises qu'on envoit Annuellement pour la Traite des Tchaktas, en forçant même l'Article de la poudre dont les Cherakis consomment 10. Milliers par An.

M. D'auberville vouloit, Monseigneur, avec je luy remise, l'Etat qui m'a été fourni de la Nature et Quantité des Articles pour la Traite Annuelle de cette nouvelle Nation, et cela a Fin de vous en faire la Demande. Mais outre que nous Sommes incertains de la paix avec elle, et que les Besoins des Cherakis sont bien differents et bien plus considerables que ceux des Tchaktas, Je luy ay fait sentir que pour ne point constituer S.M. dans les de=penses qui pourroient devenir inutilles il suffiroit de vous demander le double des Articles neces=saires pour la traite des Tchaktas, parce que Si M. de Vaudreüil n'aprouvoit pas la paix avec les Cherakis, le Suplement de Marchandises bien loin de tourner à perte pour le Roy, serviroit L'Année suivante pour la Traite des Tchaktas. Sauf dans les Suittes a prendre d'autres précautions pour satisfaire le Gout de cette Nation Cherakis, Et qu'au Surplus, si la paix avoit Lieu avec Elle j'esperois pouvoir la contenter pour la première Fois avec ce Suplement.

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Tel est, Monseigneur, le Party que j'ay crû le plus sage à prendre dans les Circon=stances, et en Consequence duquel M. L'Ordona=teur vous fait sans Doutte la même Demande que je vous fais.

Je suis avec un profond Respect,

Monseigneur,

Votre trés humble et trés obeissant Serviteur,

Kerlerec.

Nelle Orleans le

30. Janr. 1757.–

Endorsed Copy. | An intercepted Letter from Mr.| Kerlerec to |New Orleans. Jan 30th 1757.– | in the E: of Loudoun's Letter of | June 17th 1757. | 8

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Extracts from several Letters found on board the Revanche, a French Vessel, taken by His Majesty's Sloop the Jamaica.-

Nou.lle Orleans le 1. Fevr. 1757.

Vous nous abandonnez furieusement, Monsieur. La Cour n'ignore cependant pas nôtre Situation, et vous estes de nôtre Coté a Mesure de voir par les Envoyés que vous nous avez fait tout ce qui nous restè à reçevoir.

Je ne puis vous exprimer assez com=bien il est Tems que nous receivrons des Se=cours; Je n'entre dans aucun Detail par l'incertitude du Sort de cette Lettre. Nous sommes ici, Mon Cher Monsieur, à la Veille de boire de l'Eau, Le Roy me passe 12. Tonneaux, dont Je n'entend plus parler ne re=cevant Rien, et les finances de ma place, ne sont en Verité pas suffisans pour payer le Vin 500# la Barique. Si vous n'avez pitié de moi, Mon Cher Monsieur, Je serai obligé de mettre la clef sous la porte, aidé moi donc Je vous prie si l'Occasion s'en presente.

Sign'd, / Kerlerec

À Monsr. de Rhuis — Governor of Louisiana.
Commissaire General de la Marine,
Ordonnateur à Rochefort.

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Nouˡˡᵉ Orleans le 6 Fevʳ. 1757.-

L'Incertitude du Sort de ma Lettre m'empeche, Mon Cher Camarade, de m'entretenir avec vous sur bien des Objects, et puis vous dire seulement en Gros que depuis 4 Ans la Cour nous a oublié comme s'il n y avoit jamais eu de Louisiane, et ce n'est pas defaut de Representations de ma part de toute Couleur et de toute Espéce; Aussi Je vais songer à tirer ma révérance, et ce sera le plustôt que Je pourrai en ce que ma Santé decline à Vue d'œil.-

Signed

Kerlérec.

À Monsʳ. Du Mesnil, Capitaine des Vaisseaux du Roy, et du Port de Rocheforte -

Aux Illinois ce 10 Decʳᵉ. 1756.-

Je me flatte que Messieurs les Gouvern-eurs instruissent la Cour de mon Application Zelée au Service de Sa Majesté, ne leur Laissant rien ignorer de tout ce qui se passe dans nos Nations: Vous savez, Monsieur, que je suis arrivé ici, les Armes à la Main les ayant trouvé aliénés par l'Anglois, J'ai eu beaucoup à travailler depuis que J-y-suis pour

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nous les concilier sans qu'il en couta beaucoup au Roy, grace a Dieu, j'en suis venu à bout, elles nous sont attachées,, unies entre elles, & sont con:tinuellement en parti sur nos Enemis dans la Virginie ou sur les Chicachas avec Succés et nous donnent chaque jour de nouvelles Marques de Leur Affection. Ce qui fait que j'abandonerai ce De=partement avec d'autant plus de plaisir d-y laisser tout tranquille et plus en État de Defence, pour le Fort qu'on construit, dont tous les Battimens sont achevez, et l'on travaillera au pourtour sitôt que la Saison le permettra. J'ai donné a Messieurs les Gouverneurs quelques projets d'Etablissement dont quelqu'uns même sont comme indispensables, qui arrêteront ceux que L'Anglois pouvoit faire sur le Pais, et nous aliéner les Sauvages mettant a couvert ces Cantons d'aucune Entreprise. Je ne vous entretiendra pas de tous les Avantages qu'on pourroit tirer de ce Pais ~~pour ce Pais~~ pour le bien et progrés du But de cette Colonie, je laisse à mes Superieurs ce Soin.

Signed, / Macarty Mactigney, Commanding Officer in the Department of the Illinois.–

À Mons.r De La Porte,
Chef des Bureaux de la
Marine, a Versailles.–

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De la Nou.lle Orleans 25. janv.r 1757.–

J'ai reçeu des Lettres de Mons.r de Macarty, qui me paroit s'impatienter très fort de mon Arrivé, Il marque à Monsieur Le Gouverneur que tout est fort tranquille dans l'Étendue de son Commandement et tous les Sauvages disposés à faire La Guerre aux Anglois & aux Sauvages leurs Alliés.

Je suis toujours dans la même per=plexité occasionnée par le Marque des Nou=velles puisque nous n'avons rien reçeu depuis Mon Arrivé. Les Circonstances presentes m'empech=ent de m'étendre d'avantage, ignorant le Sort de ma Lettre.

Signed / Neyon de Villiere, Destined Successor of
Mr. Macarty Mactigney.

À Mons.r l'abbé de l'isle Dieu, Grand
Vicaire de Mons.r L'Evêque de Quebec, au
Semenaire des Missions Etrangères, à Paris.

Same Date.–

Les Circonstances presentés ne me permettent pas de vous rien marquer de ce qui peut m'in=téresser, Mon Depart pour les Ilinois n'est certain qu'autant qu'il nous arrive dans le Courant du prochain de Nou.lles Denrées.

À Mons.r Lochet de Vaudidon,
Secretaire du Roy à Rochefort.–

Neyon de Villiere.–

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De La Nouv[lle]. Orleans le 25 Janv[r]. 1757.–

Dans l'Esperance d'avoir des Vaisseaux du Roy, j'ai tardé jusqu'à present a vous faire part de mon Arrivé. Je ne puis vû les Cir=constances presentés vous marquer les Raisons qui m'empechent d'aller, prendre possession de mon Commandement.

Signed / Neyon de Villière.–

A Mo[r]. Le Compte Du Bot, Chev[r]. de S[t]. Louis, Capitaine des Vaisseaux du Roy, en Son Château, près le favier en Basse Bretagne.–

De La Nouv[lle]. Orleans Le 2[d]. Fev[r]. 1757.–

Croirez vous, Mon Cher General, que je n'ai pas encore receu une planse d'a de la Cour depuis mon Depart de Paris. Mon Depart pour les Illinois étoit fixé au 5 de ce Mois, mais n'ayant point de Nouvelles il est remis. J'ignore le Tems ou je pourrois partir. M[r]. De La Porte qui m'a assuré que La Croix de S[t]. Louis suivroit de prés mon Avancement Il y a bientost deux Ans que je suis nommé, je n'ai ny Commission, ny Croix, jugéz de La perplexité ou je me trouve.

Signed / Neyon de Villière.–

A Monsr. Le Comte de La Riviere, L[t]. General des Armées du Roy, Command[t]. la 1 Compagnie des Mousquetaires au Luxembourg. à Paris.–

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De La Nouˡˡᵉ Orleans le 25. Janᵛʳ 1757.–

Elle (Mᵈᵐᵉ De Reyon) est bien mortifiée de n'avoir pu envoyer des Ailles des Fournaux. La Guerre qui oblige à epargner sur tout et particu:lierement sur La poudre fait que personne n'en a fait la Chasse cette Autonne faute de Vaisseaux du Roy Je n'ai pu encore aller prendre possession de mon Commandement. Je suis dans l'attente et toujours pret à partir d'un Moment à l'autre.

Signed

Reyon de Villière.–

À Mosʳ de Bournonville, à l'hotel de Luxembourg. Rue Sᵗ Marc, a Paris.–

De La Nouvell Orleans le 25 Janʳ 1757.–

Les Circonstances presentes me laisent dans une perplexité que Je ne puis vous ex:primer, Je vous rends asséz de Justice pour croire que si cela dependoit de vous nous aurions plus souvent des Nouvelles satisfaisantés pour cette Colonie qui en a quand Besoin.–

Signed,

Reyon de Villière.

À Monsʳ de la Roque.–

Same

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Same Date.

Un peu de Negligence de la Part de la Cour me retient ici; Nous attendons de jour en Jour des Nouvelles. Aussitot leur Arrivé je pars pour me rendre dans mon Commandem.t ou je ne negligerai rien pour m' acquerir de La Gloire et autre Chose encore afin qu'avant peu d' Années nous puissions nous rejoindre tous.

Sign'd

Neyon de Villiere.—

A Mons.r Durondoure

à Morlaix en Bretagne.

De La Nouvelle Orleans le 3d Fev.r 1757.—

A l'Egard de Champigny il est toujours aux Arkansas, qui y continue son Travail à la Satisfaction de Son Commandant.

Signed,

Neyon de Villiere.—

A Mr. de Monin, premier Secretaire des Commandemens de S.A.S. Monsg.r Le prince de Conty, à Paris.—

A la Nouvelle Orleans, le 1r. Fev.r 1757.—

Je ne pense pas que mes Lettres ayent eu le Sort de se rendre, Les dernieres que j'ai

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reçues de vous sont en Datte du Mois de Decembre 1755. que ce Tems est long. Nous sommes depuis ce Tems et plus à croquer ici le Marmot. point de Marchandises pour les Besoins des Illinois, point de Commission pour Mons.r De Neyon. Nous ignorons actuellement quand nous partirons et nous nous consommons en Depenses, car qu'est ce que sert que 40. Sols dans un pais ou les Bas content dix Ecus, les Souliers dix Francs, Un Chapeau 60" & une Chemise propre 50" –

Nôtre Voyage des Illinois est differé. Mons.r de Kerlerec et Mons.r D'Auberville veulent qu'il (Cham:=pigny) voÿe finir le Fort des Akansas. –

not Signed. –

Addressed as the Former. –

À la Nouvelle Orleans. 29. janv.r 1757. –

Nous sommes dans l'Attente de nos Vais:=seaux d'Aprovisionnement depuis long tems. Le port de Rochefort est il tombé dans son ancienne Létargie?

Signed.

D'Auberville.

À Mons.r d'Abbadie,
Commissaire de la
Marine, Ordonnateur au
Department de la Rochelle. –

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Halifax August 5th. 1757.-

My Lord,

Since I had the honor to write from Sea, I have to inform Your Lordship, that I arrived here with Rear Admiral Sir Charles Hardy, on the 30th. of June, with the Ships of War and Transports Safe.

That on the 9th of July, Admiral Hol=:brune arriv'd here with the Fleet and Trans=:ports from Europe, after being five days off the Port, without being able to get in for the Fogs; altho' Sir Charles Hardy had thir=:teen Ships, Sloops of War and other Vessels out with Pilots, to assist in bringing him in

Sir Charles Hardy, whilst he command=:ed, & Admiral Holbrune, since his Arrival have taken every method, to obtain Intelligence of the Strength of the Enemy, by sending not only Frigates but fishing Vessels (as being less Suspicious) with Rangers on board, to en=:deavor to bring off a Prisoner; All which You will be more fully Acquainted with from the Admiral.

All the Intelligence we got from those endeavors, was, that Captain Gorham, in a French fishing Vessel, got near enough to see

ten or twelve large Ships of War in the har:
=bour; And a Fisherman Captain Rouse took off the Island of Cape Breton, Confirms the Account of Twelve French Ships of War being in the Harbour, and of the Fortifications being enlarged and Strengthned with several New Bat:
=teries; which Intelligence, with the certainty of Mons. Beaufremonts having got in, with his Squa:
=dron from the Cape; the Intelligence the Ad:
=miral had got at Sea, of the ten Ships from Brest; and the Accounts we had, of the four French Ships of the Line that had passed the Streights destined for North America, which I had confirmed by Your Lordships Letter of May 2d, which I had the honor to receive July 24th; made the Admiral and I think it necessary to call a Council of War, which was accordingly done; and in consequence of that, it was determined to make an Attempt on Louisbourg, and the Troops immediately Embarked, in order to Sail with the first fair Wind that would carry Us out of the Harbour.

This arose from the Construction of Words, and difficulties arising from thence; But from the Accounts of the numbers in the Garrison, and Mons. Beaufremont's Squadron alone being in the

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Port, which secured that against the Fleet; by which the Garrison must have been very near equal to the Army, I could carry against it, and when there remained so little time, first, to carry all the Artillery, Ammunition & Pro:=visions up to the Town, to begin the Siege; and afterwards, to reduce the Place; I could See no prospect of Success: And as the Wind as well as the Fogs, had contributed to pre:=vent our Sailing, I was reconsidering this Af=fair with the Admirals and Generals, when a Sloop arrived, yesterday, from Newfoundland, with Letters from Captain Edwards, in the Station Ship there, to the Admiral, a Copy of which You have enclosed, with the In:=telligence he got in the Prize he took going from Louisbourg to Old France, confirming the Intelligence we had, of all the three Fleets of French Ships of War being arrived, with a reinforcement to the Garrison, of four Battalions.

On this Confirmation of Our former Intelligence, I made no Hesitation, as the At:=tempt on Quebec was both too late, before the Fleet and Succours arrived here, and rendered impracticable for this Season, by the Strength the Enemy had Collected at Louisbourg

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before Our Fleet arrived in America; And as by the Force the Enemy now have in Louis=bourg, if they come out to Engage with Our Fleet, the Transports must be in the greatest danger of being lost from the Superiority they have in their Frigates, even suppose Our Fleet should get the better of their Capital Ships;

And that the Enemy should make the Security of Louisbourg their main Point, and for that purpose remain in the Harbour; in that Case, the Garrison employed in the defence must be greatly Superior to the Besiegers: On which, from the Experience of the Councill of War which I have held, I determined to re=turn to the method I have followed ever since I had the honor to Command in this Country to advise first with all those I could get benefit from their Advice, and then to determine my=self; This I have done, and have determined, and am now Executing it;

To lay aside all thoughts of Attacking Louisbourg; to Provide for the Security of this Province, in case of the Enemys Fleet either getting the better of Our Fleet, or Slipping them; and against any Attack they might form against Fort Cumberland; for which purpose

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I leave Major General Hopson in this Country, and besides the three Regiments that were here before, I propose to leave the 2d. Battalion of the 1st or Royal Regiment, the 27th, the 28th, the 43d. & 46th. Regiments, which with Lieut. Colonel Frazers Regiment, when it arrives, I think will be sufficient for the defence of this Province: Of those, I send two or three Battalions to Fort Cumberland directly, to secure that Fort, and to leave the remainder here; And as I cannot Cover in the Winter, more than three Regiments in this Province, besides the Troops formerly in it, I have given Orders for the other three, to be Transported to Boston when the Campaign is over; And I have order'd the Troops that go to Fort Cumberland, to be employed in finishing the Fortifications there; and am Strengthning the fortifications of this Harbour.

There were Seven hundred Men, of the three Regiments here, put on board the Fleet, which the Admiral still insists on carrying with him this Cruize, as he is obliged to leave his Sick behind.

As the Enemy must before this, have been informed of the Strength that is Collected

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at Louisbourg, from which, and the Season of the Year, they must be sure we can make no Attack on Quebec, where they had collected all the Force they had in the upper part of their Country, which Strength they will now be at Liberty to Pour in on our back Settle=ments to the Southward, I proceed directly to New York with the remainder of the Troops, which are the 17th, 22d, 42d, 44th, 48th, 55th and the Second & fourth Battalions of the Royal Americans, and the Rangers, in order to throw in Succours wherever they may be wanted; And if the Situation of Affairs and the Season will permit, to make a Push.

Here I have the honor to lay before Your Lordship, a Sketch of my Plan, and by the first Opportunity I shall give You a more particular Account of the Execution of it, with which I shall transmit a Copy of the Councill of War, the Papers annexed to which are not yet Extracted, or I would have sent it now.

I cannot conclude this Letter without observing, that had the Fleet and the Succours not been prevented, by contrary Winds, from Ar=riving in April, as I am informed by the Secretary of State they were intended, my Master

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might have been in possession of Louisbourg very early in the Season, with a very small loss of His Troops.

And as the Enemy have now Encreased & Strengthned the Fortifications so much, and thrown in so large a Garrison, You will find it a difficult Point to carry next Season, even if Your Fleet were to arrive in time, and before any of the Enemys Ships of War are got in: but if a very small number of Ships are in the Harbour, the Fleet can give no assistance in reducing the Place, but by cover=ing the Transports, and Lending Men, to draw the Artillery over the Swamps and assist in the Batteries.

Besides, the Early Season is the only one proper for an Attack on that Place, as the Fogs come on in June, and are so thick, that Ships are often a fortnight and three Weeks, that they dare not look into the Land; and the Winds that prevail at this Season, make such a Surff on the Shoar, that it is very difficult to Land the Troops, Artillery, Am=munition, Stores and Provisions, whereas in the Spring, the Winds are commonly Northerly, and then the Landing is much more practicable; besides,

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the Fleet, by the best Accounts I can get, can=not remain on that Coast after the latter end of September.

Last Night I had the honor to receive Your Lordship's Letter of May 31st. with an Account of the destination of the two Highland Batta=lions; and a number of Duplicates of former Letters.

March

The Windsor is just now arrived, with the Bomb Ketch that was sent after the Fleet; Captain Faulkner informs me, that it was known before he Sailed, that the French had sent Ten Ships of War from Brest to North America, with three thousand Land Forces on board, which is the only Account I have of it from Europe.

I have the honor to be, with great Respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

Most Obedient and Most

Humble Servant.

Loudoun.

P. S. I forgot to mention to Your Lordship, that upon Captn. Edwards's Letter and Intelligence, I wrote to the Admiral, desiring his Opinion, with regard to the practicability and prospect

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of Success, in Attempting the Siege of Louisbourg, under those Circumstances: a Copy of which Letter I here Enclose, together with the Admirals Answer thereto.

L—

The Right Hon.ble The Earl of Holdernesse.

Endorsed Halifax Aug.t 5th 1757. | Earl of Loudoun. | R. 30th by Cap.t Cotterell.

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Schedule of the Papers enclosed, and re=
=ferred to, in the Earl of Loudoun's Letter
to the Earl of Holdernesse, Dated, Halifax,
Augst. 5th. 1757.-

Copy of a Letter from Capt. Edwards
to Admiral Holburne, bearing Date 17th July 1757.-

List of French Ships of War said to
be at Louisbourg, enclosed in the said Letter.

Copy of a Letter from The Earl
of Loudoun, to Admiral Holburne, bearing
Date Augst. 4.

Copy of the Admiral's Answer thereto,
of the same Date.

Endorsed Schedule of the Papers enclosed /
& referred to, in the Earl of Loudoun's / Letter
to the Earl of Holdernesse— / Dated, Halifax,
Augst. 5th. 1757.-.

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Gosport at St. Johns Newfoundland
The 17th. July 1757. at 9. AM

Sir

The 10th Instant I took a Letter of Marque Schooner of Six Carriage Guns (two Pounders) Four Swivells Musquets &ca: and Eighteen men, who saild the 6th. from Louis:=bourg, laden with Fish for Bayonne; having found some Letters on Board her which Mention the Arrival of a French Fleet at that Port, Confirm'd to me by the Captain, and Second Captain (as he calls himself) who has given me a List of the said Fleet, with the times of their arrival as near as they can tell. Copies of the said List and Letters I herewith Inclose for Your further information, and as one of their Letters men:=tion their Engaging near Gibralter, it confirm'd me of their being the Four Ships that Es:=caped Admiral Saunders; the Consequence of this being made known to You for His Majesty's Service, I immediately made for St. Johns, in hopes of meeting with a Sloop, Vessel of War, or some Information where & how to dispatch the said Intelligence to You.

I arrived here Yesterday at Noon but

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finding no Vessels of War, nor any Information of Your Motions, or any Vessel so Proper as my Prize to be got, she going Extreme well by the Wind, I immediately unloaded, Tallow=ed, Ballasted, Arm'd, and Equipt her &c. Put on Board her 21. Men and Mr. Arthur Brans=combe my Pilot, a Sober Man and well ac=quainted with the Coast, and dispatch'd her this day for Halifax, to deliver this Letter to You, or the Commanding Officer there, as the most Likely way of forwarding this Intelligence to You, and the Wind seems to hang to the Northward, I am in hopes if this is not known to You already that he will ar=rive in two or three days safe, as you may think it Necessary to Question one of the Prisoners, I have sent the second Captain as the most Intelligible Man for that Purpose.—

I am sorry to Acquaint you that these men give an Account of His Majesty's Ship Green=wich being taken by the Squadron from Martinico.

I have given the Master orders immedi=ately to return to me, if you have no Commands for him, as the men on Board are Part of my Complimt. and the Vessel very Necessary to Visit the Harbours of this Island or to be always

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ready here, to send dispatches and Intelligence on such occasions, and for such I have had her Valued, which I hope will be approved off.

I hope the French from Louisbourg will not think of attempting us here, as I am sorry to say the Fortifications &c are in a Very bad Condition.

I am doubtfull of any opportunity of forwarding this Account home, as no Ves=sel is bound thither from this Place at Present, which much makes makes me regret the want of a Sloop of War.–

They tell me the French are very apprehensive at Louisbourg of Your having Passed the Gutt of Canse for Quebec. I sincerely hope You will meet with as much Success in America, as our Friend and Ally, the King of Prussia has met with in Europe, the Extraordinary Gazette of which I herewith inclose, if You have not already seen it.

The Snow Captain Laforey retook, the 19th of may last, and sent hither, has been Valued & Settled and the Salvage amounts to £69. 4. 7½ – which I shall remitt agreeable to His request I beg My Compliments & sincere wishes of Success to Sr. Charles Hardy,

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and Gentlemen under Your Command beg=
=ing to Esteem myself

Sir

Your most Obedient &

Very Humble Servant

R Edwards

Fra Holburne

Copy

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Captain Edwards / To Admiral Holburne / Gosport at St Johns New / foundland 17 July 1757 / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Augt. 5th. 1757 / 1

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A List of French Ships of War said to have arrived at Louisbourg under the Command of Monr. Da Bois de Lamot, as by Information of Jean Dorealzable Cap=tain & Pierre Mendibouze 2d Captain of the Schooner Surprize, who left Louisbourgh the 6th July 1757.

Last from Martinico said to Arrive the 20th or 21st of June Last.

	Guns		
Le Tonnant	80	Monr. Beaufromont	Rear Admiral
De Francœur	74		Chef de Escadre
L' Inflexible	64		
L' Eveille	64		
Le Diademe	64		
Le Brune	32		

From Brest about two or three days after the Ships from Martinico Arrivd.

Le Formidable	80	Monr. Da Bois de Lamot	Vice Admiral
Le Duc de Burgogne	80		Rear Admiral
Le Superbe	74		
Le Dauphin Royal	74		
Le Beliqueux	64		
Le Celebre	64		
Le Heros	74		
La Bizarre	54		

From Toulon about four days after the Ships from Brest

Le Sage	64
L' Achille	64

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Ships	Guns	
These two he coud not / Recolect the Names of	74. / 74.	
La Bienacquise....	34.	
La Commele......	32.	They cannot say which Squadron
La Flur de Lis...	30.	These Four Frigates came out in.
La Hermione......	34.	

NB:

The Ships from Toulon, are those that Engaged with Admiral Saunders off Gibralter

There is Four divisions in the Squadron, but he cannot tell the Name of the other Rear Admiral, or the Chef de Escadre The Surgeon of the Schooner say, that the Ships from Europe, brought out Four Regiments of Soldiers; that they have levelled a Rock on which we mounted a Battery when we last besieged Louisbourg, and have raised a Fortification thereon, with several 24. Pounders mounted, <u>and they work day and Night to Compleat the Works for defence</u>

The Master of the Schooner says, that the Four Regiments of Soldiers, which came in the Ships from Europe, are those of de Berry, de Artono, Borgon, and Mailly,

Endorsed List of French Ships of/War said to have Arrivd./ at Louisbourg/in the E. of Loudoun's Letter/of Augt. 5th. 1757./2

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Halifax 4.th August 1757.

Sir

I herewith _ You the Intelligence You have received from Captain Edwards of His Majesty's Ship the Gosport Station'd at Newfoundland by which the former Intelligence we had of the French Force at Louisbourg is now Corroborated, Upon which I cannot help desiring Your Opinion as soon as Possible, whether the Land Force united with the Fleet under Your Command is Sufficient to Attempt the Reduction of Louisbourg with any Probability of Success at this advanced Season of the Year

I am with great Regard &ca.

Endorsed Copy / of The Earl of Loudouns / Letter to Admiral / Holburne / Halifax Augt 4th 1757. / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Augt. 5th. 1757. / 3.

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Copy

Newark in Halifax Harbour, 4th Augst 1757.—

My Lord,

I have the Honour of Your Lordship's Returning the Intelligence I received from Captain Edwards of the Gosport, and as this Account corroborates what we formerly heard of the Enemy's Strength at Louisbourg, I have no Doubt of a Strong Squadron being there; And as Your Lordship is desirous of my Opinion, whether the land Force under Your Command, united with the Fleet, is sufficient to attempt the Reduction of Louisbourg, with any Probability of Success, at this advanced Season of the Year? I must acquaint Your Lordship, that so far as a Sea Officer can judge, considering the Strength of the Enemy, and other Circumstances, it is my Opinion there is no Probability of Succeeding in an Attempt upon Louisbourg at this ad=vanced Season of the Year. And if Your Lord=ship shall determine not to attempt it this Sea=son, nor undertake any other Service, wherein it may be necessary for the Fleet and Army to act in Conjunction, You will please to signify the same to me, that after having appointed a proper Convoy, for the Transports Protection,

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I may proceed to Sea, with the Rest of the Ships, and employ them in the best Manner for His Majesty's Service.

I am, with the greatest Esteem,
My Lord, Your Lordship's
most obedient and most humble Servant
Fra: Holburne.—

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from Adml. Holburne to / The Earl of Loudoun.— / Newark in Halifax Harbour / Augst. 4th. 1757.— / in the E. of Loudoun's Letter / of Augt. 5th. 1757 / 4.

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From on board H. M.s Ship Winchelsea, at Sea,
August 16th 1757.—

My Lord,

In the Letter I had the honor to write your Lordship, on the 5th I Acquainted You of my having laid aside, all thoughts of an Attack on Louisbourg this Year, from the Season and the Force the Enemy had collected there; and of the disposition I had made of the Troops, for the Security of the Country.

To which I have now to add, that we at last got out of the Harbour, with the Squadron of Men of War, the Transports destin'd for New York, and those for the Bay of Fundy; that at the Mouth of the Harbour, I was met by two different Vessels, with Letters from Mr. Webb, forwarded from Boston, by Governor Pownall.— Enclosed, you have Copies of Mr. Webb's Letters of the 1st & 5th of August, which contain the Account, of the Enemy's having, on the 3d, set down before Fort William Henry

By the numbers they are reported to be, and from their having permitted the Enemy, to get the Superiority of the Lake, without which they could not have got up Artillery, I look

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on that Place and Garrison, as lost; with the whole Troops there; And from Mr. Webbs Letter of the 5th, I think he will abandon Fort Ed=ward. Where he intends to make his stand, is more than I can judge, from what he says; but as the loss of Fort William Henry alone, is so Consequential to the Neighbouring Colonies, and as I see by my Letters from Governor Pownall, that he has taken every Step in his Power, to forward the raising of the Militia of his own Province, and to Spur on the People of Connecticut; And as I am sure, Governor De Lancey will do his utmost in New York, to collect the People there; I hope Mr. Webb will be enabled to make a Stand, till I can arrive with the Troops.

As soon as the Letters arrived, Admiral Holburne came on board to me, and I sent for Sir Charles Hardy and Major General Abercromby, and immediately changed my disposition.

As the Enemy seem, from the Accounts, to have now, as I foresaw they would, as soon as the Season had put it out of our Power to Attack Quebec, bent their whole Force against Our Collonies; I Order'd two of the three Regi=ments that were still with Us, on their Voyage

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up the Bay of Fundy to Fort Cumberland, to join the division that goes with me; So that I have taken Lord Blakeneys and Major General Thomas Murrays Regiments with me; and forwarded Governor Lawrence with Major General Kennedys Regiment, under the Con=voy of a Twenty Gun Ship, directly to Fort Cumberland; and sent back the Sloop, that was going with them, to Halifax, with Orders to Major General Hopson, to embark Lieutenant General Braggs Regiment, and send them directly to Fort Cumberland: So that Mr. Lawrence will have there, two Battalions compleat, of Seven hundred each, besides the present Garrison; and Mr. Hopson will have, the Second Battalion of the Royals, compleat to One thousand, besides the remains of the three Regiments; which, with the Fleet at Sea, if they are able to deal with that of the Enemy, will protect this Colony; And whilst We are Masters at Sea, the Fleet will be able to cover Fort Cumberland; but if they are forced to retire to Halifax, Fort Cumberland will be exposed to an Attack, from the Troops that compose the Garrison of Louis=burgh, join'd by the remains of the Neutrals

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the Inhabitants of St. John's River, and the Indians.

I have likewise Order'd, Lieutenant Colonel Frazers Battalion to be sent after me, to New York, as soon as they arrive, of whom we have no Accounts since the Windsor left Cork on the 20th of May, at which time, Lieutenant Colonel Montgommery's Battalion and the first division of Lieut. Col: Frazers were arrived there.

As this Letter is writ at Sea, it will be, in some degree, a Journal; which I can=not avoid, as I can have very little time to write, after I arrive at New York.

On the 17th the Admiral join'd the Sutherland to strengthen Our Convoy, and then left Us; He Standing for Louisbourg, and we are now proceeding with a fair Wind, which we had not when we came out, and pro=pose, when we have passed the Nantasket Shoals, to make the Coast as soon as possible, either by the Hook off New York, or to go in by Block Island, and Land on Long Island in the Sound, and get to New York that way, where Orders have been sent, to have all the Sloops in readiness to embark the Troops and proceed as Circumstances may require.

Last Year, I laid my thoughts before

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His Majestys Ministers, on the manner of carry:=ing on the War in this part of the World; in which I pointed out Quebec, as the great Object of Offensive Operations, as it appear'd to me that, were that in my Masters possession, it would at once give Peace, to all the North part of His Colonies on this Continent:: I was further of Opinion that, whilst that was the Plan, the Enemy must keep their Force assembled for it's defence, and by that, be prevented from making any Attack on the back Settlements.

So far I judged right; for altho' the Enemy had, during the Winter, made their preparations for making a push by Crown Point, the moment they got Intelligence, of the taking up of Transports, and drawing the Troops towards the Sea Coast, they chang:=ed their disposition, and collected their Force at Quebec, where they kept them, till they found, their Fleets, Troops and Provisions were got Safe into Louisburgh, and till all the re:=inforcements and Supplies they expected were arrived, and that they knew the Season for Attacking them was past; then they Sallied out, and above You have an Account of

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their first beginnings, which have already, totaly changed the Face of the War in this Country.

In my Plan. I proposed the Fleet and Army for this Enterprize, should be Assembled at Halifax by the first of May; I fixed on that time, from the best Information I could then get, and now I find, that is full late, as the Southerly Winds & Fogs in this Country; come on soon after; and how practicable it is to keep a Convoy of Transports together, in those Fogs, the Gentlemen of the Navy, who have been on this Coast, can give the best Account: but I will venture to assure You, that ever since I arrived at Halifax, there have not been Six clear days, and very often, I have not been able to see the Ships in the Harbour; and Major Genl. Hopson informs me, that he remembers Seventeen day at one time, that he did not see the breadth of the Parade in Louisbourg.

I mean no more by this, than to Shew that from the Season alone, all Expeditions that are undertaken late, on the Northern parts of this Coast, must ever fail of Success.

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If those Expeditions are intended for the River St. Lawrence, besides the Fogs, there is not time for to Execute Your Plan: for Ships that are intended for Europe, from Quebec, set out commonly by the middle of September; those that carried the Oswego Prisoners from there last Year remained later than ever any Ships did before, in order to avoid our Fleet; and they, sailed the end of September.

It is absolutely necessary, likewise; if your Plan is on Quebec by the River St. Lawrence, that the Port of Louisburgh and the Mouth of that River, Should be Stopped up early; and in this, the Streights of Belle Isle should not be neglected; for if that is not done, before the Enemy have thrown in the Supplies and got a Fleet into Louisburgh, it will be extremely dangerous to proceed up the River, with such a Force as is necessary to reduce Quebec, as that would leave all the immense Coast of America to be harass'd, by such a Fleet as they now have in this Country.

If Louisburgh is your Point, every body agrees. that if there are but a small number of Ships in the Harbour, it is not to be freed by a Fleet; Indeed I am of Opinion, that they

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cannot Force it if there were no Ships in it, without a great loss of Ships, and even then, that it is not to be attempted, till the place is on the point of being taken by the Land side, which the double Attack might hasten.

The Enemy having even a small Squa=dron of Ships in the Harbour, has a double effect; first, as they cant be forced in it, they are at Liberty to Employ their whole Men in defense of the Town; and in the next place, if Our Fleet Anchors in the Bay to cover our Transports, they run great risk of being lost, as the Winds at that Sea=son, blows directly in and the Ground is foul

And if the Fleet lie off: whenever the Southerly Winds Blow, they are obliged to go to Sea; and during their absence, the Enemys Fleet are at Liberty to come out, and return unpunish'd, after destroying Our Transports which must be our principal Magazine, as we can have no other Cover, either for Our Ammunition or Provision, but what we erect after Our Landing; and from whence, the Be=siegers are able to Transport it but Slowly, from the difficulty in passing the Morass, in many places of which, they are Gall'd from the

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New works on Cape Noir.

There are other difficulties, attend the Attacking of Louisburgh in a late Season; Such, as the Southerly Winds preventing Your Landing, by making such a Surge on the Shoar, that no boat can Land whilst it lasts: And if You should have part of your Troops on Shoar, and the Wind should change, it would be impossible for You, to reinforce them, send them any Supplies, or bring them off again, till a Shift of Wind comes.

Besides, the place is greatly Strengthned of late, to the Land Side; by adding Cape Noir to it's works, where they have erected a Battery of Twenty five Pieces of Cannon of 42 Pounders; which ranges down to the White Pine Point, the Landing place across the Swamp, that leads from there to the Town, and along the front of the Works: And by altering the West Gate, by repairing the whole of the Works and Mining every where that the Morass will permit.

I am inform'd, they have taken the Guns out of the Grand Battery, part of which are planted on Cape Noir, and the remainder are in two New Batteries, on the point of

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Land that Stretches out from the Maurepas Gate; one part of them opposite to the Burying Ground, to Play into the Harbour; and the other, on the point of that Low Land, to cover the back of the Island Battery, in case of an Attack on it.

And it is further necessary that I should observe, that if You Attack Louisburgh late, the whole Force of Quebec and all that upper part of the Country, must be at Liberty to Act against your back Settlements, as they must be sure You cannot, after that is over, make any Attacks on the Interior parts of their Country.

I thought it my Duty, My Lord, to be explicit on the natural difficulties, that attend the carrying on a War in this Northern part of the Continent, that my Masters Ministers might be apprized of them, in order to enable them for the future, to prevent the Vigilance of the Enemy, from gaining the Advantages which those, that arrive soon in this Country, will ever have over those that come late.

For I may venture to assure Your Lordship, that had the Fleet and Succours been able to have Sail'd, so as to have been

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here, either at the time I desired to have had them, or at the time, His Majesty's Ministers Acquainted me, they were to be here, which was early in April, You might in all proba=bility have made a very Glorious Campaign; For then, the Garrison of Louisburgh was Weak, and in want of every thing; The French had not got in a Ship into the Harbour; and the Fleets they have since sent, came all in detachments, none of which were able, to have separately dealt with Your Fleet; So that I can see no reason to doubt that the place must have faln easily, into the hands of the Kings Troops; and all the three different Fleets they have sent, falen one after another, into the hands of my Master's Fleet; And if the Season had permitted, after that was over, to have gone to Quebec, the Panick there, must have made the difficulties much less than at any other time.

But as neither the Fleet nor the Troops arrived in this part of the World till July, and before that, the Enemy were Sup=plied with every thing necessary for them: And as I am informed, both by the Officers

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of the Fleet, and the People of most Ex=perience on this Coast, that a Fleet cannot remain on the Coast of Cape Breton, after the end of September; the great view of an Offensive War is disappointed, and the Enemy left at Liberty to enter the back of the Provinces, with their whole Force.

After having writ so much on the Situation of this Country, and the necessity of early Measures; Your Lordship will naturaly expect, I should, considering the distance I am at, and the great length of time requisite, to communicate Orders to the Kings Servants here, say something, in relation to forming a Plan of Opperations for next Year.

But, My Lord, as the Enemy are now in the Provinces, with an Army said to consist of Twelve thousand; and as it is impossible to foresee, where or when the Cam=paign will end; And as I have not yet been able to learn with certainty what number of Troops the Enemy have thrown into this Country this Season, nor where they will Post them during the Winter, I am at a loss, what Plan to propose to follow: And before I am able to give You an Account of those

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things, it may probably be too late, to make the necessary preparations, for any Plan may be sent to Execute; therefore I must rest it, on what is said above, of the Opinion I have formed since I was here, of the Impossibility of Executing Plans to the Northward if the Preparations are not made in the Winter, and the attempts made early; and in case of their not finding business for the Enemy, in the heart of their own Country, the Consequences that must happen to the back parts of those provinces, from an Enemy undisturbed at home, whilst Your Troops are driven out at so great a distance, from being able to give them any relief.

And further, I think it my duty to observe to Your Lordship, that without a Lati=tude is left in Orders at this distance, to make such Alterations in the Execution of them, as the Change of the Situation of things make necessary, the Country may be undone, by a punctual Obedience, to the most Prudent Orders at the time they were given, or the Person that has the honor to Command, must depart from them with a Halter about his Neck. For

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as Orders most naturaly arise from the Information, of the Situation of Affairs, from hence, and before that can reach London, and the Orders in Consequence of it, return here to be Executed, Six Months, at least, must be elapsed: and in much less time than that, the Situation of Affairs in War, in so wide extended a Continent as this, must be Subject to many Alterations.

And if the Person in Command, is not thought proper, to be entrusted with the Power of taking such Measures, as the Change of the Situation of things make necessary, he is certainly most improper for his Office: And it is absolutely necessary, for the Kings Service, that a better should be sent in his Place, in whom it may be fit to place such a Confidence.

I return now, to the different incidents on the Continent, as they have come to my knowledge; with an Account of the Steps I have taken on them.

On the 18th. arrived an Advice Boat from Governor Pownall, with Copies of Letters from Lieutenant Governor De Lancey and Deputy Quarter Master General Christie, from Albany,

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with an Account, that On the 8th in the morn:
=ing. the Garrison & Troops at Fort William
Henry had Capitulated; and that there was
a report, that Fort Edward was Attacked;
And Strong Sollicitations for Men to be sent up,
for the defence of Albany: On which, I im:
=mediately dispatched the advice Boat, with
Letters, to all the Governors from New Hampshire
to the Jerseys inclusive, enclosed to Governor
Pownall, on whose diligence I could depend:
I sent directions, for the manner of carrying
on the defence till I could arrive, in case
the Enemy should penetrate into the Country,
with directions, to forward a Copy of it to
Lieutenant Governor De Lancey, at Albany, in
order to convey it to Major General Webb, if he
could be come at: my directions were, not to
risk a Battle with the Militia, but in case
the Enemy advanced into the Country, to cut
off their Convoys, to Harass their Rear and
keep them in continual Alarms.— I writ
likewise, to the Governors of New Hampshire and
Connecticut, to Employ their back Settlers, in
this Service.— I Order'd Pilots to be ready off
Rhode Island, in case I should get in by
Block Island.— I writ to the Governors of

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Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and the Jerseys, to have every Sloop of those Countries ready, to carry the Troops, Ammunition and Provision up the Hudsons River: Copies of the Material of all which Letters, I send Enclosed.

On the 20th., I received an Advice Boat from Governor Pownall, with a Letter from Mr. Webb, dated at Fort Edward the 11th., with an Account of his Situation, and of the Capitulation of Fort William Henry on the 9th. and of the inhuman & Villainous breach of the Capitulation by the Enemy; On which, I repeated my Orders of the 18th., which were dispatched early on the 21st.

Here, it is necessary to Acquaint Your Lordship, that before I left London, I received from Mor. Pichon, commonly called Mor. Tyrell, (who was Mor. Vaudreuils Secretary whilst Governor of Louisiana, and was taken Prisoner in Beausejour) the Office Copies of Mor. Vaudreuils Letters, and the french Ministers Original Letters to him; in which it appears, that he lays it down as a Maxim, that whenever Peace is made, then is the proper time to Attack the English; And on that Plan, goes on to give an Account, of the barbarities he has committed

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on the English in time of Peace; and the approbation of his Proceedings, from the Ministers in France.

This Maxim was followed, at the taking of Oswego; by the Murder of several of the Soldiers in the Fort, and the whole of the Sick in the Hospital; And it has been now again repeated at Fort William Henry, under Mr. Montcalm's own Eye.

August 31st, I brought all the Trans=ports within the Hook, and got to New York myself; the next day, most of the Trans=ports got up to the Town: As there was a Packet Sail'd two days before, by which Mr. Webb gave you an account of all that had happened in this part of the Country, be=fore my arrival, and as I can give you no other Accounts, than what I have received from him, not having yet met with the People that were at Fort William Henry, I shall leave that Subject, as it stands, and proceed to give an Account, of the Steps I have since taken.

As the Enemy had retired, and I took it for granted, the main of their Indians would go home, and they would be obliged, to send

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home most of their Canadians to get in their Harvest, I was in hopes, with the Force I have, to have been able to have reduced Ticonderoga; but when I have consider'd, and have had Plans and reports laid before me, of the time the different Operations will necessarily take, of disembarking the Artillery, carrying it to Albany, from thence fifty Miles by Land to Fort Edward, and then to cut a road of about Seventy Miles, on the East side of Wood Creek, in which there must be bridges made over the Rivers, and along a considerable part of the Road, which is Swamp; And when this is Accomplished, I should have the Lake, of a mile and a half, to cross on Rafts, in the face of their whole Force, which they can easily reassemble, (except the distant Indians) cover'd by their Whole Boats, and the Floating Batteries they had at Fort William Henry; I have laid it aside for the present.

The Plan I have taken, is to send one Battalion to reinforce Colonel Stanwix, at Carlisle in Pensilvania, as I am informed, that Province have not raised their Quota of Troops, according to the Agreement at Philadelphia last Spring; and that I apprehend, the Indians from

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the back of that Province, that were with Mr. Montcalm, may on their return from him make an inroad, without there is a sufficient force there, to oppose them.

The other Troops, which I have brought with me, I have sent to Albany with Major General Abercromby, and such a part of the Artillery as was necessary there; and the moment my Letters are finished, I follow, in order to prevent any further Attempts on that part of the Country this Season, in case they bring back their Canadians and Indians, after the Harvest is over; and to put all the Places on that Frontier, into as good a Situation, as the nature of them will permit.

In the mean time, as I see, at present, no offensive Operations can be carried on; and as Mr. Webb, on finding his numbers of the Provincial Troops greatly diminished, partly, by the Capitulation of Fort William-Henry, and desertion, had applied to the Northern Provinces, to compleat their Quota; and altho' that Measure was absolutely necessary at the time he made the demand, yet as the manner of Executing all business in this Country, is so tedious, that I could not expect that reinforcement in

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less than two Months, and at a very great Ex:
:pence to the Provinces; And as I have Force
sufficient, to prevent any further mischief in
the back of this Country, and as I am de:
=sirous, of saving every Expence to the Provinces,
consistent with the Security of them, I have
enter'd into a Negotiation with the Northern Pro:
=vinces, in which I Acquaint them, that I
shall not insist on their making up those
deficiencies at present; and further, that I will
dismiss the Provincial Troops for this Season,
as early as the Situation of Affairs will per:
=mit; Upon Condition, that they will furnish
me with a body of Rangers, to remain with
me the whole Winter.

I have already agreed with Lieutenant
Governor de Lancey, for this Province, that he
will, in place of the thousand Men which
was the Quota of this Province, furnish me with
two hundred Rangers for the Winter, by which
proportion, if I can carry this Point, I ought
to have for the Winter, One Thousand and
Eighty Rangers; part of which, I shall Em:
=ploy in covering the Country; and others of
them in Annoying the Enemy in their own
Country.

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They are a Species of Troops we can=
=not be without, now that, I may venture to say, we have no Indians, and the Enemy have so great a Body of them: If with them, or the Troops, either Separately or Join'd, any thing can be done, it shall not be neglected.

Above, I have given you an Account of the disposition I have made: I am since informed, the Enemy have withdrawn part of their Force from Ticonderoga, but that does not put me in a better Situation as to attack=
=ing of them, for I am not able, at this Season, to transport so much of the Artillery to that Place, as to reduce it this Season before the rains come on; besides, they are able to reassemble, before I can reach it, and probably they will bring back their Forces, on finding I have carried up the Troops from hence: for I can make no Mo=
=tion, but what they have immediate Notice of, both from the People of the Country and from the Indians; numberless Accounts of which, I have from Montreal.

In this Situation, I am repairing the losses we have Sustained, as far as is in my Power; and preparing every thing, for attacking

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them when the Season permits, either, in what=ever Shape I shall be directed from home, or the Enemy gives me an Opportunity here.

So far, this Letter was writ to Lord Holdernesse, as from his Lordship, I have received the latest Letters; but as I am now informed, by Mr. Wood, that I am for the future to Correspond with You; I am to Acquaint You, that on the 11th of September, by the Packet, I had the honor of Your Letter of March 31st, with an Account, of the Orders His Majesty had given, for Lieutenant Colonel Montgommery's Battalion being sent to South Carolina.— As I have no account of What provision has been made, for supporting or subsisting them there, or what Pay has been advanced them, before they left England; I have taken the opportunity of the Station Ship, to send them a Credit of £5000.— to Subsist them, till I can receive an Account of their Situation, which must take some time, as they are between Eight and Nine hundred Miles from me here; and have by her, writ to Governor Lyttleton to provide Quarters for them, which, I am afraid, he will be difficulted to do, as there are now in that Province, Eighteen

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hundred Men, composed of One thousand High=
=landers, five Companies of the first Battalion of the Royal Americans, and the three Inde=
=pendent Companies.- As they are so strong now, and Governor Lyttleton has got his Province, to agree to raise a Regiment of Seven hundred Men to be regularly Paid and kept up which will augment the Force there, to two thousand five hundred; I have order'd back, the two hundred Provincial Troops of Virginia whom I had sent there, as they are now more necessary, for the defense of their own Frontiers, for they have not by my last returns, yet compleated their Quota of Troops, which was settled at Philadelphia in the Spring; nor has Pensilvania yet raised, much above the half of their Quota, so far as I am informed, for I have got no regular return from them.

Maryland, has raised all the Force they agreed to, as I had the honor to inform You, in my Letter of June 17th.

I think it my duty, here to recapitulate the Situation of the Force in North America; that, from thence, the Kings Servants may enabled to form their Plan, and Judge what part of

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it will be necessary, for the defence of the Provinces, how far those parts can support one another, and what force they will be able to apply, to any Offensive Operations.

Above You See, that I had added to the three Independent Companies in South Carolina, in the Spring, five Companies of the Royal Americans, making together Eight hun=dred Men, which, when added to the Pro=vincial Forces, I had settled with the differ=ent Governors to send, for the defence of that Province and the Neighbouring Ones, amounted to Two thousand; but of those, none has joined them but two hundred from Virginia.

The King has since been pleased, to order Lieut. Colonel Montgommerys Battalion of 1000, making in the whole, of regular Forces Eighteen hundred Men.

In Nova Scotia, about fourteen hun=dred Mile distant from there, are the three Regiments formerly there, with two Companies detached to Newfoundland, making 3000. Men, I have added, one Regiment of 1000, and two, each 700, making in the whole, for the department of that Country, 5400. In this

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distribution for this Country, I have been determin=ed by the resolution you took last Year, of sending 2000. of the reinforcement coming to America directly there.

Those two divisions, employ 7200. of the regular Troops in this Service; the first divi=sion, I look on as destin'd for the defence of Georgia and the two Carolinas.

The Second, Solely for the defence of Nova Scotia.

The remainder of the Troops, among which are the whole of the uncompleat Corps, have the defence of Virginia, Maryland, Pensil=vania, the Jerseys, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusets, and New Hampshire, an immense tract of Country, into which lies the three main Attacks of the Enemy, by Fort du Quesne, by the Mohawk Country, and by Tienderoga; And from this third division, which if compleated, and those at present dis=abled by the Capitulation of Fort William Henry, and those taken Prisoners coming from Europe, included, amount to 12700, must be drawn those, that are to be employed in offensive Opera=tions, if You chuse to continue these great detachments, as they are at present, on the two

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Extremities of the Provinces.

As to the Aid from the Provincial Troops, it is my duty to State that as it appears to me.— Georgia can give no Aid, nor make any defence; by my Letter in June, I Stated their Case, and Acquainted You, with the Assistance I had given them.

The new Regiment, proposed to be raised in South Carolina, I hope will be effectual.

North Carolina, are able to do very little.

Virginia has, hitherto, never furnished their Quota.

Maryland, by the Acts of their Assembly, has taken their Troops, from under the Com=mand of the Kings Generals.

Pensilvania has, so far as I am in=formed, yet raised, little above half of their Quota; four hundred of those, have joined the Kings Troops, and the remainder are Em=ployed in the Forts, on their Frontiers, to the most material of which there is no road, by which I can March Troops to their Aid, if Attacked.

The Jerseys have no Government; Governor Pownall is gone there, as Lieutenant Governor, to put them in as good a State as possible;

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but as his Situation will not permit him to remain, he must leave the Government in the hands of the Eldest Counsellor, an Old In:=firm Weak Man; from him it would di:=solve, into the proprietary hands of People, who have those extensive Claims, now depending with the People.

Those last three, are all under Quaker refractory Influence, I should rather say, Government.

New York will concur in all Measures, thro' the Influence of Lieutenant Governor De Lancey.

Connecticut is a strange Government; but at present they have a good Man at their head.

Rhode Island have turned out the only Man they have fit for Governor, avowedly, for concurring in the Kings Measures; They are a lawless set of smuglers, who continualy Suply the Enemy with what Provisions they want, and bring back their Goods in Barter for them; And their Abandon'd Practise in Money matters, make them able to give very little Aid, if they were willing, to the Pub:=lick Cause.

Massachusetts, will now go on to give their assistance, as Mr. Pownall is Governor there, where all things go smooth and well.

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New Hampshire is Poor, and, being a Frontier Province, can give little Aid.

I must further Add, that the Troops furnished from the Provinces, are in general, Officers and Soldiers, the lowest dregs of the People, on which no dependance can be had, for the defence of any particular Post by themselves; but where there is a sufficient Force of regular Troops to make the Stand, may be usefully employed with an Army, in the desert back parts of the Country (if they were composed of a better sort of People) by preventing the Wearing out the Troops before they come to Action.

I had more faith in their Militia, as being composed of a Strong Race of Men, who had their own properties to defend; but the Accounts I have got, of their behavior on this last occasion, have diminished that; but I forbear to mention the particulars of it, till I am more fully informed, which I shall be at Albany.

I have mentioned those things, only to lay before You at one view, the number of Troops You have in this Country, the great and distant detachments from them, at the

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two Extremes of the Continent; with the de=
=tachments which must be made out of the remainder; and the Assistance that can be depended on from the Provinces; in case the Troops are to be drawn out.

And to Shew You, the great Length of time, that it must take to Negotiate with those Provinces, from the distance as well as from the great variety of Governments; the Jealousies Subsisting between each; and the Supine Slow=
=ness, with which all of them execute every Measure.

I had finished my Negotiations, with the Northern Governments last Winter, in the first day of February, and they were to March by the 25th day of March; but it was May before I could move them, tho' they were previously prepared before I met them.

I finished my Negotiations, with the South=
=ern Provinces, in March; and several of them, have not fullfilled their Engagements now.

From whence You will see, that if your Plan does not come early, it is impossible to Execute it; and I do foresee, I shall be under a necessity of being in the back Settle=
=ments of this Country, part of the Winter, if

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it is such a one as I can get thro' them; which will in a great measure, depend on the kind of Winter we happen to have.

Before I leave this Subject, I must again observe to You, that it is absolutely neces=sary, at this distance, to leave some discretion=al Power, to whoever Commands; for were I now able, to give You the most minute Account of every particular, relating, not only to the Force and the Situation of every thing in the Kings dominions, and likewise the most minute Account, of the Strength, Situation, and designs of the Enemy, it is now September, and it will be May, (which is Eight Months at least) before the Orders you give can be Executed, even if they arrive early; And before that so distant time from this, Affairs may have so changed their Face, the wisest Plan that can be formed on all that In=formation, and what more you can get by other means, may, by the alteration of affairs, become the most improper to follow; nay, it may be impracticable.

Many things may be said, to Illus=trate this, but I shall mention but two; Sup=pose Your Plan should be a Naval one, and

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that You fix down the Kings Servants here to follow that, and in the interim, they should be able to strike a Stroke here, by which they should be able, to open a passage into the Enemys Country: You would not chuse to lose that advantage, if they have got over the main difficulty.

And as I am positive, neither side will let Slip any good opportunity, and as the events of War are uncertain; Suppose on the other side, that the Enemy should strike a Successfull Stroke against Us, and get into the Kings dominions with their whole Force, it would then be necessary, to apply Your whole Force to drive them out; for were you to carry on the Expedition according to the Orders, and should Succeed, and leave the Country to be defended by the People in it, You would only make an Exchange of the Rich Provinces here, for the barren oni's belonging to the Enemy

If those Arguments have not the same Weight with You, that they have with me, they will fall to the Ground; for I do assure You that, for my own part, if I am to continue in the Command, I would much rather Act by directions, than from my own

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judgment; for I am sure, could those who give the Orders know, the Changes that hap=pen between that time and the Execution, and were on the Spot, to alter those Orders as circumstances may require, they would do it infinitely better than I could; but as that cannot be the case, a punctual Obedi=ence of Orders may Screen the Officer, and at the same time lose the Country.

There is a great inconvenience attends the Service, here, which it is necessary for me to mention, as I think it may be easily remedied; first, when Money is remitted in Specie, no Information is ever given of it; so that if I get any Information, it is by Acci=dent, from the Contractors Agents, who are people generaly at a great distance from me; and even from them, I get no certain Ac=count; And when the Money is remitted, it comes too late in the Season: last Year it arriv'd in August; this Year it arrived in July; And the great distress for Money, is at the time of taking the Field, when it is necessary to clear off all Accounts, or the Publick Credit will be Affected, which I have been able hither=to, to keep up.

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In the Money which arrived at Halifax there were about Thirty thousand Pounds in small Silver, mostly unmilled, which it is difficult to circulate in this Country, and in most places; When People will take it, it goes under Parr; at Halifax, it is a fifth under Parr; however, I shall be able to circulate this Sum without any loss to the Government, but I beg, there may be no more of the small unmilled Money sent.

I do not mention this, as any Com=plaint against the Contractors, it is owing to myself; before I left London, or was Ac=quainted with the Currency of this Country, I applied to Mr. Hanbury, (from the general Principle, and the Convenience we have always found in having small Money in Paying of Troops,) that he would send in all his remittances of Specie, a part in that Coin; It seems, they could not get any till now, for we have received none till this remittance.

Whilst I am writing, I have received from Halifax, a Copy of Your Letter of July 17th. Major General Hopson having kept the Original, till he can send it by a Ship of War;

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By it I see, His Majesty has been pleased to Order, two thousand drafts and Nine Companies of Highlanders to America; As there is no Ac=count, to what Port they are Ordered, I shall send Orders to Major General Hopson, in case they come to Halifax, to send them directly here, as I am of Opinion, that the Service in that part of the Provinces, is already fully Supplied; and if it were not, they can put under Cover, no more Troops than they have. which appears, from my being forced to allow Major General Hopson, to build Barracks for a thousand Men; and at this Season; there is not time to build more Barracks, even if necessary.

When those drafts arrive, I shall im=mediately dispose of them, in the manner that seems most for His Majestys Service, and least Expensive to the Publick; and Acquaint You with the disposition I make, which I cannot fix with Certainty, till I see the numbers that actualy arrive.

Enclosed, I send a Petition from part of the Oswego Carpenters, in behalf of themselves and their Absent brethren; I have mentioned them in several of my former Letters, And those that

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were sent to England have been returned, but no Orders sent to me about them; The Agree:=ment made with them was particular, and Sub:=ject to many Objections: Some of the Agreements, that have fal'n into my hands, give them a right to their Wages, not only whilst they are Employed and till they return home, but their Wages to continue to be paid to them, till they are Paid the whole Money due to them, And as I have no Account, what has either been done for them whilst in England, or what de:=termined on that Subject, nor no directions upon it, I can take no Steps for their relief, without Interfering in an Affair, which would intermix my Accounts with Mr. Shirley's, which is one of the things I should least chose to do, after what I have seen of them.

I mentioned likewise, I think in April, the Situation in which the Accounts of Mr. Brad:=docks Campaign stood; from the short Notice Mr. Shirley gave, of their being to be Paid, and the place he fixed on for that purpose, which was Philadelphia; which was at so great a dis:-tance, that some had not notice in time to put in their Claims, and those that had small Accounts, could not bear the Expence of so long

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a Journey, as most of them lived in the back parts of Virginia and Maryland.– I only men=tion those two Subjects, in case from the Multi=plicity of business, they should have escaped Observation.]

I have deferr'd saying any thing further, of the Situation of Affairs in the back Country, to the end of my Letter, in case any further In=formation had arrived, but as there has none come, I have only to add on that Subject, that I have a Letter from Mor: Montcalm, in relation to the Capitulation, in which he insists strongly, on the Observation of it.– I propose to Answer this Letter, in very Civil but strong terms, and Shew him that, hitherto, I have kept it strictly, in Expectation of proper redress being made for the Breach of it, not only by his People mur=dering all the Sick, but many of Our People, after they were paraded under the Protection of an Escort from him, and carrying many of them away Prisoners, and robbing & Strip=ping the whole of them, in breach of the Capitulation; But likewise in Expectation, that he would instantly return to me, the Officers he himself had carried away, in breach of the Capitulation.– I can lose nothing by such a

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Letter, for hitherto, in this Country, they have kept no faith, and have committed every Cruelty in their Power.

I have just received a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Bouquet, from Charles Town, September 10th with an Account of Lieut. Colonel Montgomery's Battalion having arrived there on the 3d that they have brought with them, one hundred and Six Supernumeraries; that they were very Healthy when they arrived, but have grown very Sickly, even in the short time they have been here; And that the whole Country is so Sickly, that all the Officers he had sent a Recruiting, as well as the Men, are faln Sick; And that he is forced to recall them, after very little Success & great Expence: And that Nine of the ten Trans-ports, which came with the Highlanders, are to have Convoy back to the Thames; he has none to give them, and they refuse their discharge.- I have writ, to endeavor to get them a Convoy, but whether I shall get one or not, am not sure, but I have directed Application to be made, both to the Governor and Commander of the Ships there, for Convoy, and in case that cannot be obtained,

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I have order'd Lieuten.t Colonel Bouquet, to direct the Agent of the Transports, to give them Orders to Sail, and to take a regular Protest in case they disobey, as thinking the risk of their be=ing taken in running home without Convoy, less Expensive than the detaining them for Convoy, in which case, the freight might great=ly exceed the value of the Ship: I have consulted with every body, that has any know=ledge in this Matter, near me, and this seems the best advice, therefore I have followed it.

The Assembly of Rhode Island, have voted only 70 Rangers, in place of 100. which I demanded of them, on which I have writ to the Governor, to renew the demand of 100.; a Copy of which I have the honor to enclose.

The People of Connecticut, had thoughts of Acting in the same manner; their As=sembly is now sitting, and I imagine a Second Letter of mine to them, may prevent their taking that Step; if it does not, I shall insist on their meeting again.

I shall give You an Account of my proceedings above, and of the disposition I make of the Troops for the Winter, in about a fortnight.

The Packet arrived On the 15th. of October

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at Night, but brought no Letter, but a dupli=
=cate of Your Letter of the 17th July to me,
and duplicates of Your Letters of July 7th
& 13th to Admiral Holburne, which I shall
forward directly, tho' I have reason to believe,
he has received the Originals.

I have the honor to be, with great Respect,

Sir

Your Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant.

Loudoun.

New York 17th October.

The Right Honble The Earl of Holdernesse.

Endorsed At Sea. Augt. 16th & New / York
Octr. 17th 1757. / Earl of Loudoun. / Rx Novr. 21st.

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Copy.

Fort Edward August 1st 1757.—

My Lord,

The two last Letters I had the pleasure to write to Your Lordship bore date the 19th & 22d of June, both which I hope have before this come Safe to your hand; in them I Acquainted Your Lordship of every thing material that had happened to that time under my Command.— On the 23d we had the misfortune to lose Captn. Richd. Rogers by the small Pox which still con=tinues amongst Us, tho by taking every pre=caution that could be suggested we have hap=pily prevented its becoming universal, his death Your Lordship may imgine is no small loss to Us, as by that means the only Company of Rangers we have, is left without a head; I have order'd Lieut. Johnson to take the Charge of the Company till it shall be fil=led up by Your Lordship, as I have likewise a Sergt. of Capt. Robert Rogers's Company who made his Escape from Canada to act as Super=numerary in that Rank till I shall receive Your Lordships Orders concerning him, his name is Willm. Henery, but as Capt. Rogers is on the Spot he can give Your Lordship a more

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particular Account of him, & his pretentions. I arriv'd here the 24th. and in Consequence of the Ill behavior of Capt. Burgen and his Com=pany, and Your Lordships directions to me reduced it the 28th

On my arrival at Saratoga I met a party of Indians returning from a Scout to Crown Point from which place they had brought off a french Prisoner de la Marine, the prin=cipal part of his information was, that they had a large number of boats at Ticonderoga, which they talked of puting into Lake George by carrying them across the Portage, and by Planks across two of them to transport their Artillery so upon them to Attack Fort William Henry, that their Troops were very healthy, & that they had a great number of Cannon there, he also aded that he was at the attack of Fort Wm. Henry in the Winter, and that it was given out by their Officers in case they Succeded they were not to give any Quarter, he was carried down to Sr. Willm. Johnson by the Indians, and by my desire taken from them by him and sent to New York, tho' Sir Willm. is of Opinion it would be difficult to make them give up every one they may chance to take,

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which I have however desired him to do his utmost endeavors to Effect.— Sir Willm. Johnson in one of his Letters informs me of some disaffected people having spread several malicious reports amongst the Six Nations, to allianate their affections from Us. if I can possibly find out any of the Authors I shall not fail to make proper examples of them.— July the 1st. Capt. Putnam being on a Scout with 50. Men toward South Bay and having waylaid Wood Creek within a mile and an half of the Bay, about eleven o'Clock at Night dis=covered between twenty and thirty bark Canoes coming up the Creek with a great many In-dians on board of them, and as soon as they came under his ambush gave them the full fire of his party which he repeated three times before they could Land upon the opposite Shoar as it was very Steep and Rocky, they however being so much superior to him in number, and most of his Ammunition be=ing Expended pursued him in the morning, in which he lost three of his Men who had been wounded the night before and could not make their escape, two of them they carried off and one was found Scalped

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by the party we sent out the day after in pursuit of the Enemy; he is a very proper Man for that Service, and is indeed the only person that as yet has done any thing, he is certain he killed and Wounded a great many of them.

I have the pleasure to inform Your Lordship that the Corporal of the 3d Battalion of the 60th Regt with the rest who deserted with him have at last all been taken by our Scout=ing Partys in their way to the French, a Court Martial has been held upon all of them but the Corporal who was almost dead when taken and is not yet well enough to be brought to tryal; And one Peck a German sufferd death pursuant to his Sentence the 21st of July.

July 2d four deserters came into Fort William Henry from Tienderoga who confirmed all the former accounts of the number of Cannon and boats at that Fort, and further added that they were busy facing it all round with Stone, of which their Casmats and Barracks were built, they likewise informed Us that three large Ships were arriv'd at Quebec with Troops and Ammuni=tion on board, and that Six hundred Canadians were sent to the Ohio.

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July 10th another french Prisoner was brought in from Crown Point by a party of Indians, he was also of the Marine; he in=formed Us that the day he was taken, and some days before a large reinforcement of Troops was gone to Ticonderoga, that they had at that time there, five Battalions, and One at Crown Point besides some Cana=dians and two hundred Indians at the former, but that Mons: Moncalm was at St. Jean's and hourly expected with (as he said) the main body of the Army, he confirmed the number of Cannon & Boats at Ticonderoga, amongst which were those taken at Monongehela and Oswego, that four large Ships were ar=rived at Quebec with the Regt. De Fisher and provisions on board.

The 23d. Our Covering party was attacked in the Woods on the East side of this Fort by a body of French and Indians, and as usual gave way and most of them ran in, a party was immediately sent off from the Camp who after a smart fire for about ten minutes drove the Enemy off pre=cipitatly, We lost 14 Men besides Six or Seven Wounded in this Skirmish, Our People say

they killed several of them, but they were not to be found, amongst the killed on our side were a Serj.t & Corp.l of the 35th Reg.t who were Scalp=ed & terribly mangled, and three of the Inde=pendants, the rest were Provincials.

The same Evening Col: Parker set out from Fort William Henry without my knowing any thing of the matter till too late to prevent it, with 300 Men and twenty seven boats of different kinds, to what purpose I realy cannot tell, all the reason they can give for it, was to take some Prisoners, and at day break the next morning fell into an Ambuscade of French & Indians at a place called Sabbath day Point about twenty Six miles from Fort William Henry, they were fired upon by a large party of the Enemy on each side of the Lake, and at the same time attacked by a great number of Indian Canoes, in which the Enemy shewed so great resolution as even to board and over set our boats giving no Quarters to the Men, whom from their being scatter'd became separately an easy Conquest, Col. Parker and Capt. Ogden with four Whale boats and about fifty Men have made their Escape and got into Fort William Henry, as have about

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fifty others who by getting ashore escaped the Slaughter, and came over the Mountains, Capt. Mc. Ginnis of the New York Forces and Capt. Woodward of the Jersey, and all the rest are still missing.- By this unfortunate Stroke Your Lordship will perceive the Enemy have at present the Superiority on the Lake, we having now but two of the Old Sloops and five Whale boats remaining, I have however given Orders to have sixteen others sent up from Albany and Schenectady as soon as possible.

The 25th I went to Fort William Henry with Lt. Col. Young, Mr Montresor, and Capt. Ord, who upon considering the situation of Affairs, & reconnoitring the Ground, were of Opinion that the Troops encamped on the N.W. side of the Fort agreable to Your Lordships former Instruc=tions, should be removed to the Rocky Eminence on the S.E. where a redoubt should be raised and some small pieces of Cannon mounted on it, under the fire of which they might Encamp without being Subject to a Surprize from the Enemy, which from the nearness of the Wood and the distance of the Fort from the former Encampment they were always liable to- Neither of the Galliots were yet launched.

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but one was to be ready in a few days. On the 28th. I sent out Captn Putnam & Lieut. Johnson with three of the remaining Whale boats to reconnoitre the Enemy, who returned in the Evening, & brought word that at the first narrows they discover'd three Canoes with white flags, which on his Approach seemed to run away in order to draw him in to pursue, but as he imagined he saw some Men on the Shore each side of the Lake, he thought it most ad:=viseable to come back before night.

After having made the requisite disposi:=tion, and given the necessary Instructions to Coll: Monro I returned to this place the 29th. and the 30th. wrote to Sir William Johnson to Join me as soon as possible with what Indians he could Collect, and to the Colonels to March the Militia of the Province of New York to Albany. I have likewise wrote to the Governors of the Massachusets, Connecticut & Rhode Island to March the rein:=forcement they were to furnish agreable to Your Instructions in case of Emergency forthwith to this place. By the returns I herewith send Your Lordship You will see our Strength, which by all Accounts is much Inferior to that of the Enemy; they have a great number of Indians

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insomuch that we are constantly Surrounded with them, and the avenues to their Forts way laid by them, Col. Young sets out tomorrow with a reinforcement of Regulars & Provincials for Fort William Henry to complete the number of Troops there to 2000. I shall upon any In:=telligence of the nearer approach of the body of the Enemy move up with the remainder of the Army and endeavor to dispute their Landing or make a stand with the whole on some advantagious Ground after having thrown a proper Garrison into each of the Forts. Small Scouting parties are sent out daily on each side of and a Whale boat sent down the Lake for Intelligence, We have set a great many more hands to work on the Galliots (there being but twelve Ship Carpenters amongst the forty nine Artificers under Capt. Worthen) and hope if we can get them out in time to recover the Com:=mand of the Lake again.

By a Letter from Col: Stanwix he was arrived at Carlisle the 3d. of June, and Encamped there with the five Companys of the 1st. Battalion, We have had several reports of the french being in Motion at Fort du Quesne, and

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preparations by Missisipi.— Col. Bouquet was ar=rived at Charles Town the 23d., he informs me, the 2000. Provincials he was to have had are likely to turn out but 600., and that the Independent Companies of that Province were very weak and extremely bad, of which he has discharg'd Nineteen.

I do not at present recollect any thing material that I have omitted to Acquaint Your Lordship with, shall therefore conclude this long (and I could wish more agreable) Narrative, by Assuring Your Lordship, how much I am with the most Sincere Wishes for Your Lord=ships health and Success,

Your Lordships &ca.

Dan: Webb.

P.S. I had omitted to acknowledge the recᵗ. of Your Lordships Letter from Halifax of July the first, it came to my hands the 29th.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from M.G. Webb to the / Earl of Loudoun. / Fort Edward 1st August 1757. / 1. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Augt. 16 / & Octr. 17: 1757.

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C.O.5:48

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Copy of a Letter from M. G. Webb to Gov.r Pownall Fort Edward July 31st. 1757.—

Sir,

The present Exigencies of the Service from the Motions of the French this way with a large Army, and the weakness of the several Provincial Regiments from death Sickness and other Casualties requiring the immediate rein=forcement of the Quotas each Province is to furnish upon my Application, agreable to the Instructions received by the different Governors from His Excellency the Earl of Loudoun; I must desire You will immediately on the re=ceipt of this give Orders for the Additional number of Men (to be furnished by the Pro=vince of the Massachusets Bay in case of Emergency) to March forthwith to Albany.

As the least delay may be of the greatest Consequence to His Majestys Colonies, I must beg they may move up with the utmost Expedition.

On their Arrival at Albany Capt.n Christie Quarter Master General, has my Orders to sup=ply them with every thing they may want for their further March to this Place.

As soon as the present hurry of Affairs

shall be over, I shall not fail to settle the payment for the Transportation of the Troops of the Colony of the Massachusets as likewise the debt upon the two Shillings per Week in lieu of Provisions in regard to which I have receiv'd Your Letters of the 21st of June, and the 11th of this Month,

I am, Sir, &ca.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from M. G. Webb to Governor / Pownall of the Massachusetts Bay./ Fort Edward 31st July 1757.-/ 2./ in the E. of Loudoun's of Augt 16./ & Octr 17. 1757.

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Copy.

Fort Edward August 5th 1757.

My Lord,

I wrote to Your Lordship the 1st of this Month after my return from Fort William Henry in which I Acquainted Your Lordship of the Situation of Affairs there, and that the French were Masters of the Lake, having brought over the Portage a great number of Batteaux & Indian Canoes — I likewise inform=ed Your Lordship of the resolution taken (in consequence of a Meeting of the principal Of=ficers and Engineers) to move the Camp from the North West side of the Fort, to the Rocky Eminence on the South East, as it was universaly agreed the first Situation was not defensible in itself or to be supported by the Fort, it was also agreed from the motions of the Enemy that a reinforcement of a thousand Men and some field pieces were necessary to secure the Camp and Accordingly the 2d of this Month Lieut. Col: Young was sent up with 200. Regulars 800. of the Mas=sachusets Forces two brass twelve and two brass Six pounders, with a detachment of Artillery under the Command of Captn. Mc. Cloud, with

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which he arrived safe at Night, and Encamped with the Troops before there, amounting in the whole, including the Garrison to two thousand fit for duty exclusive of Artificers Sailors &ca.

I am now to Acquaint Your Lordship that my apprehensions which I so frequently communicated to Your Lordship upon my be=ing Appointed to this Command of the Enemy bending their whole force this way before Your Lordship could have it in your Power to make a diversion by St. Laurence River have proved but too true, Mr. Moncalm having Landed a very numerous Army, on the morning of the 3d. instant upon the West side of the Lake, and invested the Fort, and cut off our Communication with the Camp with a large body of Canadians and Indians, for the particulars of what has since passed to the date hereof, I refer You to Col. Monros Letters, and the Examination of a Canadian Lieut. taken by three of Captn. Putnams Com=pany on the evening of the day of their Landing, of which I herewith send Your Lord=ship Copies.— The number of Troops remain=ing under my Command at this place, exclud=ing the Posts on Hudsons River, amounts but

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to Sixteen hundred Men fit for duty, with which Army so much inferior to that of the Enemy by the information of Our Scouts corresponding very strongly with that of the Prisoner, I did not think it prudent to pursue my first in:=tentions of Marching to their Assistance in case of being attacked, as this Post must by that means have been entirely deserted, and by that means the whole Country left un=cover'd, nor could so weak a reinforcement have been of the least Service to them. On the approach of the Enemy upon the Lake, I sent Expresses, which have been repeated ever since, to the Governors of the several Pro:=vinces, for their Quotas in case of Emergency, and to the Col^s. of Militia to join immediately with their Reg^ts. setting forth the necessity of the Service in the strongest terms, likewise to S^r. W^m. Johnson, notwithstanding which I have not yet received the least reinforcement from them. This is the disagreeable Situation we are at present in; the Fort by the heavy firing we hear from the Lake is still in our possession, but fear it cannot long hold out against so warm a Canonading; if I am not speedily reinforced by a sufficient number

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of Militia to March to their relief before it falls into the Enemys hands, I wish I may not be obliged to quit this Post in order to make a Stand at some more tenable place to cover the Province, as, should the small remains of the Army that I have here with me be invested, and the communication between this and Albany cut off, as no doubt will be the consequence after the Surrender of Fort William Henry, the whole must ev=itably submit to the Superior Force of the Enemy. whatever can be done, you may de=pend upon it I shall endeavor to do hav=ing a particular Attention (according to Your Lordships Instructions) to the preservation of the Colonies

I am with great truth and regard &ca.

Dan: Webb.

Neither of the Galliots were finished when the Enemy Landed.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from M. G. Webb to the/ Earl of Loudoun./ Fort Edward 5th. August 1757/ 3./ in the E. of Loudoun's of Augt. 16./ & Octr. 17 1757.

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Copy of four Letters from Lieu.t Colonel Monro to M. G. Webb, Enclosed in the Generals Letter of the 5th of August, to the Earl of Loudoun.—

Fort Wm. Henry August 3d. 1757.

Sir,

This is to Acquaint You that the Enemy are in sight upon the Lake, and we know that they have Cannon.

They cut off our two Boats between two and three this morning that were towards the first Island. As yet we know nothing of their numbers.

I am &ca. Geo: Monro. Lt. Col: 35th. Regt.

Fort Wm. Henry nine in the morning; August 3d. 1757.

Sir,

I send this by three Rangers and shall send You three more in half an hour and continue to do so.

We have a few Men Wounded by their Random Shott, but their Body has not yet appeared.

I believe you will think it proper to send a Reinforcement as soon as possible. I

can tell You nothing at present but that I am &ca

Geo: Monro. Lt. Col: 35th. Regt.

Fort Wm. Henry August 3d past six o'Clock in the Evening.

Sir,

This place was so suddenly surrounded by the Enemy, that there was no sending off an Express. Captn. Ogden has three Letters of mine to You, which he could not send off hitherto; I hope this one I now write will be sent off this Night.

Genl. Moncalm sent his Aid de Camp with a Letter to me to surrender the Fort &ca. My Answer was, "that we were determin'd to "defend both the Fort and the Camp to the "last;" They have not yet erected their Bat=teries, but the Indians have been firing upon us from the Wood all day: Capt. Cunningham of the 35th Regt. is Wounded in the Arm, and a Corpl. of the same Regt. has had his Arm cut off; and a few Men Wounded.

I forgot to tell You, Genl Moncalm says in his Letter, "he has a numerous Army and a Su=perior Artillery to Ours." I make no doubt that you will soon send Us a reinforcement. I am &ca.

Geo: Monro. Lt. Col: 35th. Regt.

The men seem all to be in good Spirits.

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Fort Wm. Henry August 4th. 6.0'Clock in the Evening,

Sir,

I can Tell You very little more than I did in my last, I presume you got my Letter acquainting you with General Moncalms Letter to me, modestly desiring us to Surrender.

We are continually harrass'd by the Indians all round Us, We have had both Officers and Men Wounded by them; We have seen of their Regulars but not within Shott of Us; We believe they are employed in erecting their Batteries, and as we are very certain that part of the Enemy have got between You and Us upon the high road, would therefore be glad (if it meets with Your Approbation) the whole Army was March'd.

You may depend upon Colonel Young and me doing our part as far as his and Our power. We Join in Compliments to You.

I am &ca.

Geo: Monro. Lt. Col: 35th Regt.

Endorsed Copy of four Letters from Lieut. Col: Monro / to Major General Webb.- / Fort Wm. Henry 3d. & 4th. August 1757.- / Enclosed in Mr. Webbs Letter to the Earl of Loudoun / of the 5th. August. / 4. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Augt. 16. & Octr. 17. 1757.

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Copy Enclosed in M.G. Webbs'
Letter to the Earl of Loudoun –
of the 5th August 1757.–

Examination taken August 4th 1757. at Fort Edward.

Jacques Vaudry de la Chesnaye within five Leagues of Montreal a Retailer or dealer of Liquors, at present a Lieutenant of Militia of Capt. Gille de Couri's Company of 110. Men each. declares That he left Montreal the 6th of July with about 1000. Men. and that Mr Montcalm came soon afterwards with 1000 more. That the Prisoner reports that there has come into Quebec lately at different times from Europe Thirty Sail of Ships loaded with Provisions, Stores and Ammunition, with two Regiments besides Miquelets.– That he proceeded directly from St Johns to the Falls, where he Encamped, and where his Brigade was employ'd in transporting the Cannon over the Portage. And says that they transported about 30. of all natures, and the rest of the Militia 6. more, which makes 36. Cannon & 4. Mortars, with the Boats that were all brought cross this Portage. That he set out last Sunday in the afternoon from the portage and came in a Bark Canoe near the Fort, but

that 4000. Indians & Canadians marched it by Land, under the Command of the two de Cornes, Villiers & Repentigny and arriv'd in the Night of August 3d. _ That he disembarked on the West side with about 4000. Men to invest the Fort and cut off the Communication. _ That about 10. o'Clock in the Morning of August 3d. that those in the Camp made a Sortie on the french Indians (their Troops were not yet arriv'd) but that the Indians repulsed them, and drove them back to their Intrench=ment, and it was reported in their Camp they killed 200. but that he only saw three lying on the road. That this Engagement lasted about half an hour. That he was present when Mr. Moncalm visited the Line and told those that were firing in the In=trenchment too far, that it was in vain for them to throw away their Powder at so great distance for if they killed ten Men it would be of no Signification and that he would take the Fort the next day with his Cannon. he then sent Mr. Mercier to Summons the Fort to surrender by to-morrow morning or that he would put them to the Sword but the Fort refused to accept of any terms. _ That he was

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assured the French consisted of between 11 and 12000. Men including Indians, Canadians and regulars. That soon after he went to cut a piece of a Bullock killed by the Indians, and there was taken by three of our Rangers. That the french &ca. had killed 20. of our Oxen and carried two live parties of ten each with three Horses to Mons.r Moncalm, And that he heard it talked in Camp. that when the Fort was taken it was to be Razed.- And that all the Men who were taken to go on this Expedition were not Excused if under 60. years of Age and not infirm. That they were under no apprehension of Quebec being Attacked, As the English Fleet was repulsed by the French Fleet at the Mouth of the River S.t Lawrence, And that this Account came to Carillon ten days ago.—

Endorsed Copy of the Examination (of a french Prisoner)/ taken at Fort Edward 4.th August 1757.-/ Enclosed in M.r Webb's Letter to the Earl of Loudoun./ of August 5.th / 5. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Aug.t 16: &/ Oct.r 17: 1757

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Copy.

Albany 9th August 1757.-

Gentlemen,

Last Night I arrived here, where I re=ceived a Letter from General Webb of the 8th. I find that the Troops at Fort William Henry were still making a very Gallant defence. all yesterday an almost incessant fire of Cannon and small Arms; The French Army before Fort William Henry is very numerous, a Prisoner taken the Evening of their Land=ing affirms it to consist of eleven or twelve thousand: So that I think it necessary for the Safety of the Province to order five hundred Men to be detached from the City and County of New York, and Six hun=dred from Queens County, the Orders for them are inclosed: Your will use your ut=most diligence to impress Vessels and other necessaries for the Speedy Embarkation of these detachments that they may be sent away with the utmost dispatch: I have likewise sent my Orders to the Colonel of Westchester County to detach thence Six hundred effective Men to this place, as many as possible on Horseback for the greater dispatch.

General Webb had yesterday no more than Sixteen hundred Militia join'd him at Fort Edward; as soon as he has a sufficient reinforcement he intends to Attack the Enemy and relieve Fort Wm. Henry, in which should he be disappointed, you see how Evident the necessity is of my having a large Body of Men here to Stop the Enemy and prevent their penetrating into the heart of the Country. I have sent Col: De Rey this morning with 350. of his Regiment most on horseback to Fort Edward and to spur on and hasten the Militia thither, many of whom are loitering on the Road, and for this purpose have also sent off Col: De Lancey and Mr. Dies, so that I hope soon to hear that General Webb is strongly reinforced. To divert this serious prospect, I must tell You a Story which passes here. it is said the French General sent to Col: Monro for a short Cessation to bury the dead, to which he Answered that as he had raised Batteries, no doubt he had made ditches and desired him to throw his dead into them, and he would take care to Cover them.

I hope for a good Issue of this affair

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and flatter myself I shall soon be able to give You a more Chearfull prospect; in the mean time Prudence requires that we should guard against every disaster that may happen, and therefore I desire the detachments may be made and sent hither with the utmost Speed. Col. Young is Posted at Titcombs Mount with:-in the Lines of Fort William Henry whence he greatly annoys the French Lord How came here Friday noon and set out at two and got to Fort Edward at Eight that Night

I am, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant

James De Lancey.

The Gentlemen of His Majestys Council in New York.-

A true Copy Examd. by

Jno. Godly.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Governor / De Lancey to the Council of New York / Albany 9th August 1757.- | 6. | in the E. of Loudoun's of Augt. 16: | & Octr. 17: 1757

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Copy.

Fort Edward August 11th 1757.–

My Lord,

I wrote to Your Lordship the 5th of this Month Acquainting You of the Enemy hav=ing laid Siege to Fort William Henry and am sorry to inform You in this that they opened their Batteries at five in the Morning the 6th Instant, and the Fort and Camp were obliged to Capitulate the 9th at Seven. the Army of the french consisted of Eleven or twelve thousand Men, as I at first learn=ed from the Canadian Prisoner and has since been confirmed by two Lieuts. and two Soldiers who deserted from them, which put it out of my power to be of any Service to the be=sieged, as (notwithstanding the repeated Expresses which have been sent to the several Provinces) I had not above two thousand of the Militia with me at the time of the Surrender, which with the Troops under my Command after hav=ing called in the detachmts. left at Albany and the other Posts did not mount to above 4000. Men fit for duty. [I cannot at present give Your Lordship the particulars of the Siege as Col. Monro and Col. Young are yet arrived,

but some of the Officers who came in yesterday informed me that the Fort being batter'd to Pieces the Enemy having a Battery within fifty Yards of it, and six of their largest Guns, and one Mortar being burst they were obliged to come to a Capitulation, the Articles of which were that they should have all the honors of War that were allowed to the Garrison of Minorca and an escort to prevent any bar:=barities of the Indians which were accordingly signed by Mons.r Moncalm, notwithstanding which, on leaving the Camp yesterday Morning they were Stript by the Indians of every thing they had both Officers and Men, the Women and Children drag'd from among them, and most inhumanly butchered before their faces, the party of about three hundred Men which was given them as an escort were during this time quietly looking on, from this and other cir:=cumstances we are too well convinced these barbarities must have been connived at by the French, After having destroyed the Women and Children they fell upon the Rear of Our Men, who running in upon the Front soon put the whole to a most precipitate flight, in which confusion part of them came into

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this Camp about two o'Clock yesterday morning in a most distressing Situation, and have con=tinued dropping in ever since, a great many Men, and we are afraid several Of=ficers were Massacred, Col. Monro with those nearest about him we have reason to believe returned with the Party to the french Camp for Protection, and expect them in this Even=ing, Col. Young being slightly Wounded on the Ancle and not being able to March on foot was I am informed by the Officers, per=mitted to stay till he could be sent here conveniently.] I should be guilty of a great piece of injustice did I not give the Praises to the behavior of the Regular Troops during the Siege that they realy deserve, for none could behave better, the Provincials who made the greatest part of their numbers were rather backward, I suppose owing to their being so little accustomed to that kind of War, By the Accounts of the deserters and other In=telligence we have some reason to believe the Enemy will not come on any further, and it will be happy for the Province if they should not as I have now by Sir Willm. Johnsons report little above two thousand

of the Militia of the different Provinces with me nor are their numbers likely to encrease, as more have returned to Albany within these two days then have arrived from thence. The Garrison & Troops encamped at Fort William Henry were allowed to return on their Parole not to serve for the space of Eighteen Months.

I was favoured with the receipt of Your Lordships Letter of the 12th of last Month yesterday, and have only to Acquaint You that Lord How arriv'd on Saturday the 5th Instant.

I am with great regard &ca.

Dan: Webb.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from M. G. Webb. to the / Earl of Loudoun. / Fort Edward 11th August 1757.- / 7. / in the E: of Loudoun's of Augt. 16: & / Octr. 17. 1757.

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From on Board His Majestys Ship
Winchelsea at Sea off La Heve Augt. 18th. 1757.

My dear Sir,

As Captain Bradstreet must be with You before this can arrive, I shall say nothing of the Change of Measures since You left us, but Proceed to acquaint You, that on the 16th. we saild with the Squadron for Louisbourg, the Fleet for New York, and the Fleet for the Bay of Fundy: before We got out of the Capes, we met three Expresses with Mr. Webbs Letters of August 1st. & 5th, on which immediately changed my disposition, and took two of the Regiments destined for the Bay of Fundy, with me, which makes Ten in the whole along with me, and ordered back a Sloop of War to Halifax, to take up Braggs Regiment to the Bay of Fundy in Place of the two I had taken.

Yesterday the Fleet Parted from Us and altho we are doing all in our Power, the Wind being quite a head Prevents our being able to get forward.

I have just now, at ten in the fore:=noon, received Yours of the 13th, with the disagreeable News of the Loss of Fort William

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Henry, which I doubt is before this, followed by the Loss of Fort Edward; but I would Gladly hope, that great Assistance You have so wisely and speedily Ordered, will get up time enough to save Albany, which I Look on, as of the greatest consequence to those Provinces.– I beg you may continue to Push up all the Assistance Possible, not only from your own but the Neighbouring Provinces, by which I think You may have great numbers; but those I think will not do in a Pitch'd Battle, therefore if the Enemy advance, You can annoy them more by keeping out large detachments to harrass their Rear, and cutting off their Provisions and supplies of every sort, than by collecting the whole to oppose their Front: And as You must have People well acquainted with the Country, I should think this might be done to advantage.– I do most earnestly recomend, the keeping a great Body of the Lightest and Nimblest of Your People in their Rear, to harass them as much as Possible; And if You can Perswade any of Your People, let the Parties be never so small, to give them Alarms every Night, You will distress them more than by fighting their

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main Body.— Let this be Your Plan of War, from the beginning, and Particularly be Pre=pared for it when I come up: And if this is Executed, I hope none of them shall re=turn to Canada the way they came; And this Service, when they come forward, must be done by the People of the high Country.

As to the Train of Artillery You Pro=pose to send up, Pardon me to say, I know you can have none but Iron Guns: they are heavy and will be very Cumbersome to You, and I doubt, will be only throwing so many more Cannon into the Enemys hands.

I am still of Opinion, I shall meet the Enemy's Force sooner by New York, than were I to land at Boston, therefore I pursue that Rout: If the wind hangs off when I am past Nantucket, and Prevents my getting in to the Hook, I shall run in by Block Island, and Land on Long Island, and make all the dispatch Possible.

You have my Permission to open all Letters coming to me, and give Orders in Con=sequence of their Contents, till I arrive.

Be so good as to forward a Copy of my Plan, of annoying the Enemy, to

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Governor Delancey

I am with Sincere Regard My dear Sir, &ca.

(Sic)

P.S. As Whale Boats will be wanted, I must beg of You, to dispatch a Proper Person to Nanteket, and the Places Adjacent, to Purchase one hundred for His Majesty's Service, with the Paddles Necessary for them; and send them directly to New York.

To His Excellency Thomas Pownall Esqr. Govr. of the Massachusets Bay—

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from The / Earl of Loudoun to Govr. / Pownall / At Sea 18th Augt. 1757. / 8. / in the E: of Loudoun's of Augt. 16: & Octr. 17: 1757

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From on Board H.^s Majesty's Ship
Winchelsea At Sea August 18th. 1757.

Sir

I can have no doubt of Your having Co-operated with Your Neighbouring Provinces, and followed the Example of Governor Pownall in the Massachusets, of sending Your whole Force to oppose the Progress of the Enemy; And as Your People are more used to Ranging than any other of the Provinces, they may be of the greatest use, in case the Enemy advance into the Country, by falling into their Rear, and cutting of their Convoys, and Prevent their having any supplies, either of Provisions or Ammunition, or of getting back into their own Country; by which means we may make them Pay for the success they have had in the beginning.

I am on my way to New York, with an Army, to drive the Enemy back, and to give every Aid & Assistance in my Power to the Provinces.

I am &c.

His Excellency Benning Wentworth Esqr Governor of New Hampshire

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From on Board His Majesty's Ship
Winchelsea at Sea Augt. 16th. 1757.

Sir,

As I have received, from Governor Pownall, the Accounts, of Fort William Henry being taken by the Enemy, and of the wise and speedy measures he has taken, to send a sufficient Force to Put a stop to the Enemys Progress; I can have no doubt from Your known Zeal for the Publick good, that you have cooperated with him in every thing; and that you will continue to give every Assistance Your Province, which abounds with Men, can fur=nish. And must further add, that in case the Enemy advance into the Country, the most Effectual method of stopping their Progress, will be, to Power down all Your back Inhabitants on their Rear; and Pre=vent their being able, to bring up any Provisions or Supplies of any kind; and to keep them in Continual Alarms; which will both Prevent their Harrassing the Coun=try by Parties, and reduce their strength more than by any other method you can take I am on my way to New York, with an Army to drive the Enemy back. _ In case

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the Winds Prevent my getting into the Hook, I shall Land on Long Island; and must desire that you will Order all the Sloops, that can be of use in carrying the Troops up the Hudsons River, to be Assembled at New York for that Purpose; And if Your Province can give Us any Assistance, in case of Our coming into the sound, I am sure You will have it ready, either of Pilot Boats or Carriages.

I must depend On Your having a Watchfull care of Number four, and of throwing in any Aid or Suplies it may want

I am Sir &c.

P.S. as Carriages may be very much Wanted, I must beg of You to have Your People in readiness to set out with great Numbers of them, on the shortest notice from me, in which you shall have Directions where to send them.

Governor Fitch of Connecticut.

Endorsed Copy Letter from The Earl / of Loudoun to Governor / Fitch / At Sea Augt. 15th. 1757. / 10. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Augt. 16. / & Octr. 17. 1757.

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From on board H. Ms. Ship Winchelsea, at
Sea, Augst. 20th. 1757.—

My Dear Sir—

I have this Moment received Your Let=
=ter of the 11th. with an Account of Your Situation and the Capitulation of Fort William Henry, with the Villainous & inhuman Breach of it.— I am on the Way, with a Force suf=
=ficient to turn the Scale of Affairs, with God's Assistance: And then, I hope we shall teach them the Necessity, to comply with the Laws of Nations and Humanity; for altho' I abhor Barbarity, the Knowledge I have of Mr. Vaudreuil's Behaviour, in Time of Peace, (when in Louisiana) from his own Letters in my Possession; and the Murders committed at Oswego, and now at Fort Wm. Henry, will oblige me Contrary to human Nature, to make those Gentlemen sick of such inhuman Vil=
=lainy, whenever it is in my Power,—

In the Mean Time I send You en=
=closed, a Copy of my Letter to Governor Pownall of the 18th. in which You will see my Notion of the Manner of Carrying on the Defence till I arrive; and must add to that, in Case this Letter can arrive in Time; That if You are

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Forced to retire from Fort Edward, You will take every Method You can in Prudence; to prevent & impede their advancing into the Country, by opposing and retarding them at every Pass You can find it prudent, from the Nature of the Enemy, and the Situation You find the Troops You have with You, in breaking down all Bridges and impeding the Roads as much as possible; and if You are drove down to Albany, it is absolutely necessary, that You shou'd defend the Mohawk River from the Sprouts up to Schenectady, which I shou'd hope is a Pass, they cannot force, if You bring down or destroy all Species of Boats, that are above that.

If they will penetrate, in Spite of all You can do, to have Albany, which is in every Shape of the greatest Consequence; both, as the Loss of it, at once gives up and cuts off, from us the whole Mohawks River, gives up All the Magazines, and the Key by which to return, to regain all the Country above, and penetrate into the Enemy's Country: As that is the only post, where a Body of Troops can be put under Cover during the Winter, to be in Readiness, either to oppose any Attempt

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of the Enemy, or make a Push from, against them.

If You are drove from that, I am absolutely against Your Risking a Battle, till the Regular Troops with me are joined; but that You shou'd retard their Progress as much as possible, and follow the plan of getting the Provincials of the different Provinces to cut of their Convoys & harrass their Rear, and keep them in Constant Allarms during the Night, which I shou'd hope might be done, as I take it for Granted, the most if not all their Indians are returned home, as I have never heard of any Instance, of In=dians remaining of either Side, after they have either lost any of their People or got any Booty, but that they have constantly returned Home.

This at first Appearance, seems a harsh Order for the Country, I do not mean it as such; but I think a few had better suffer, than the Whole; and if You risk a Battle with the provincials, with the Regular Troops of France, let Your Numbers be what they will, I think the Chance is, that You will be beat; in which Case we shall not be able to bring any of them to look the

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Enemy in the Face again this Season, and have the whole to depend on the Regular Troops, with=out any Aid from the Country, even in trans=porting the Provisions and Ammunition; Whereas by cutting off their Supplies, and getting be=tween them and home, they will lose the Spirits they got by their late Success, and as they lose it, Our People will of Course gain Confidence; And if they have the Hardiness to come on I shou'd hope it might be in our Power, to prevent any of them from being able to get back, which wou'd again turn the Face of Affairs entirely in our Favor.

I have with me, the Six Battalions I brought from New York, and four Battalions of 700. each, compleat, which I think suf=ficient to change the Face of Affairs, and must beg to know from You, on my Arrival at New York, the Situation Things are in, with Your Opinion of the Steps to be taken; And that You will give such Orders, in the mean Time, as are necessary, to have every thing in Readiness against my Arrival, that no Time may be lost.

I must beg You will make my Com=pliments to Lieut. Colonels Monro and Young and

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the Rest of the Officers & Troops and assure them, I will do them the Justice, in my Reports to the King, that their Gallant Be=haviour, in the Service of their Master, so justly deserves.–

I have in this Letter, given You my Opinion, of what Your Conduct ought to be, in the Situation of Affairs, as they occur to me from the Accounts I have received; but as many Things may have happened, that are not come to my Knowledge, You must be guided by Your own Judgement from the Circumstances that have or may happen; And I am sure You will find a very great Relief, from having so able an Assistant and Councel=lor, as You have in Govr. Delancy, near You.

I am, &ca.

(sic)

Major. Gen. Webb–

Endorsed Copy/ A Letter from the Earl of Lou=doun/ to M. G. Webb–/ At Sea. Augst. 20th. 1757./ 12./ in the E. of Loudoun's of Augt. 16:/ & Octr. 17: 1757.

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Instances of Perfidious and dishonorable Hostility in the French, in Time of Peace, being Matters of Fact, extracted from the Letters of Monsr. Vaudreuil, Governor of Louisiane, to the Court of France.

1749 There having been for many Years, two Parties in the Chactaws Nation of Indians; The One attatched to the French, the other to the English, with whom the English and French had also for a long Time indiscriminately traded, both People having Stores within their Villages; The French jealous of the Advantage which the English had in this Article, and consequently of their encreasing Interest with the Indians; Had for these Six Years last past, kindled and enflamed an intestine War amongst the Chactaws, setting on the French party to destroy & murder, and entirely, by Fire and Sword, root out their Brethren of the English party. These Poor Wretches, after having destroy'd three Tribes of their own Flesh and Blood, killed one of their Greatest Men, an English Partizan, and lost 800. of their Chiefs and Warriours in these mutual Massacres, beg of Mons. Vaudreuil, that he will not exact such hard

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Terms from them, but that he will be reconciled to their Brethren of the other party, for whom they sue and beg Peace.— He proposes to them, as an indispensable Condition, in these Words; "Je ne voulois pas qu'aucun "Traiteur Anglois vinssent davantage aux "Chactas, et que s'il en venoit (comme ce sont "des Vagabonds qui sont desavoués de leur Chef) "Je pretendois qu'on fit Main basse dessus".— But this Treaty not coming to Effect at this Time, his grand Scheme of Massacre and Assasination goes on; and he gives an Account of two further Actions in September last, against some of the Villages of the English Chactaws; wherein were some English Traders, and a great Quantity of English Goods, in which Actions they murdered many of the Indians; burnt their Villages; pillaged the English Stores, & killed three English;— He says expressly* "Ces "deux Actions, dont Le Sieur de Grand "Prez, Commandant à Tombekbé, etoit à "la Tête, avec plusieurs François et "un Pierrier".— And to compleat this Scheme of Perfidy, He, November. 15th. 1750, concludes a Peace with the Chactaws, on the following honorable Terms..

Nouvelle Orleans March 6th. 1749. Letter 18.—

*Vide Letter 23d. Janry. 12th. 1751.

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1° "Que quelque Chef Considéré ou Guerrier, qui
"trempera sa Main dans le Sang du François,
"sera tué sans Remission; et que si les Parents
"de l'Aggresseur s'opposent à cette Justice, toute
"la Nation prendra les Armes contre Eux, et
"leur fera subir le même Sort qu'aux Coupables.

2° "Que, quelque Chactas que ce puisse être,
"Chef ou Guerrier, qui introduira l'Anglois dans
"son Village, sera puni de Mort avec l'Anglois;
"sans que qui que ce soit de la Nation puisse
"en prendre Vengeance.

3° "Que toute la Nation Chactas continuera
"à faire la Guerre aux Chikachas, et qu'elle
"ne cessera point de frapper sur ces Per:
"=fides, tant qu'ils subsisteront.

4° "Que les Villages ce devant revoltés de:
"=truiront au plûtôt leurs Forts ou Cabannes
"Fortes, et qu'on rendra, de part et d'autre,
"les Prisonniers et les Esclaves qui ont été
"faits pendant la Guerre. Ce qui a déja
"eu son Execution".

There is in Mo^r Vaudreuil's Letter of the 8th April 1747. to the Court of France, a Matter of Fact, that ought to evince the Right of the English Settlements on the Waters of the Ohio Country, vizt a Right of Possession

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by long and ancient Possession.— In one Place speaking of these Waters, which they are always pleased to stile Nos Rivieres, he says, "Où les Anglois ont d' Anciens Etablissemens": And in another Place of the same Letter, he recom=mends, "de les chasser de Nos Rivieres, où ils ont des Magazines depuis long Tems." Yet in the Year 1751 in the Time of Peace, in a Letter to the Court of France, speaking of the English trading & settled, by Leave & with the Good Will of the free Illinois, on the Ouabasch, Rocky River, &ca. he says; * "Pour s'aboucher avec ces Anglois, "dont les Emissaires auroient merités d' "être arretés et Conduits aux Fers icy, comme il "arrivera s'ils s'avisent d'avantage de faire pareilles "Demarches, qui troubleroient infailliblement la Tran=quilite de cette Nation." And he had accord=ingly, August 8th 1751. given Instructions to Mor. Macarty, Commandant at the Post of the Illenois, as follows;— "S'opposer, (de Concert avec "les Commandants du Detroit, et des autres Postes "de la Dependance du Canada,) aux Entreprises "des Anglois, sur nos Terres, particulierement sur "la Belle Riviere, où les Anglois ont grande "Envie de s'etablir, si l'on en peut juger par

* Vide Letter 39th 10th Oct. 1751.—

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"les Secours qu'ils s'efforcent de donner aux Sau:
"=vages Refugiez sur la Riviere à la Roche.
"qui forment aujourd'hui une Espece de Re.
"=publique, composée de Renegads de presque
"toutes les Nations du païs d'en haut. Pour:
"=quoi Nous invitons Mr. de Macarty, de ne
"rien negliger, avec le Commandant du Detroit,
"pour dissiper cette Republique, qui est d'autant
"plus dangereuse qu'elle est soûtenue par les
"Anglois, qui pouroient faire par la Suite
"de cet Endroit un second Chouaguen.

"Outre cela s'il arrivoit que ces derniers
"voulussent, comme ils ont tenté deja plusieurs
"Fois, former quelque Etablissements à la Portée
"des Illinois, soit sur la Belle Riviere, ou celle
"de Cherakis, ou ailleurs, Mon dit Sieur de
"Macarty ne balancera pas de s'y opposer à
"Force ouverte, et dans le cas où des Forces
"ne puissent lui permettre d'en empêcher l'Ex:
"=ecution, il auroit agréable de se pourvoir
"auprès du Commandant du Detroit, pour
"prendre avec lui les Temperamens à rendre
"inutiles à cet Égard les Efforts de ces
"Anglois; Ce Commandant doit reçevoir sur
"cela les Ordres de Mr. Le Marquis de la
"Jonquiere, qui est prevenu de nos Desseins."

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N.B. – It appears by a Letter of Mor. Vaudreuil's, dated 8th April 1752. that Mor. Jonquiere's Scheme was, to harrass and break these, by proclaiming Rewards for Scalps and Prisoners.

Mor. Celeron, Commandant at the Detroit, writes to Mor. Vaudreuil, April 23d. 1751. that he had 5. English Merchants, taken at Sandoski in November last, Prisoners to Montreal; In which Letter he says; "Et si j'en suis crû,
"on ne fera Quartier a personne, sur tout aux
"Anglois, qui sont les Auteurs de tous les Troubles.
"Vous avez bien Raison, Monsr. de dire aux
"grands Maux les Grands Remedes; je ne doute
"point, que vos Lettres ne determine M. le General
"à faire une Marche, qui retablisse la Tranquilité
"dans les Postes; Nous sommes dans les Tems
"le plus favorables pour les Expeditions; l'Europe
"paroissant dans une Paix profonde."

These very Sentiments Monsr. Vaudreuil takes up, and recommends to the Court, in his Letter, April 8th. 1752. – According to his Idea, he says, it is the only Means to drive these People off; – "Avec Ordre expresse, de ne faire
"de Quartier à personne, particulierement aux
"Anglois, pour faire perdre à d'autres le Goût

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"de pousser aussi loin leur Vue de Commerce. Il
"y a au Surplus une Consideration bien impor:
"=tante à faire la dessus, qui est le Tems
"de paix, où seul l'on puisse y pretendre;
"pourquoi il conviendroit de profiter de l' Occur:
"=rence, qui deviendroit aussi contraire en Cas
"de Guerre, qu'elle nous est favorable Aujourd'hui."

These extraordinary Measures appear to be founded on a Letter, from Mor. Roüillé to Mor. Vaudreüil, (see the Original.) September 30th. 1750. received by Mor. Vaudruil, May 10th 1751.— wherein he says; "Il (scil. Mor. Jonquiere)
"ignoroit sans Doute, les Demarches faites par
"les Miamis de la Riviere à la Roche, et dont
"vous m'avez rendu Compte par la votre du
"9. Juillet; Il n'est pas douteuse, que sur
"les premiers Avis, qu'il aura eu de ces De:
"=marches, Il aura pris le parti d'envoyer des
"Detachemens pour dissiper les Conspirations que
"les Anglois paroissent avoir formées contre Nous
"par la Voye de ces Sauvages; Sa Majesté
"recommande expressement de ne rien negliger
"de votre Côté, pour faire échouer leurs Tenta:
"=tives: Et elle ne peut que s'en remettre a
"vous, pour les Mesures qu'il peut y avoir à
"prendre à cet égard."—

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Mons.r Vaudreüil cou'd be at no loss for the Measures; because in this same Letter Mons.r Roüillé had just before, upon a like Case of the Chactaws, given his Opinion in these Words; "Si dans les Commencemens de la Guerre, ceux "de la Nation qui etoient restés attachés avec "François, avoient detruits les Traiteurs Anglois "venus dans les Villages, la Guerre n'auroit pas "eu de Suites. Et dans tous les Mouvemens "qui pourront survenir à l' Instigation des Ang: "=lois, parmi les Nations de la Colonie, votre "principal Soin doit toujours être, de faire "tomber sur les Traiteurs qui les occasionnent."

And accordingly the French in 1752. give out Premiums for Scalps, destroy this Re: =publick; And drive off all the English Set: =tlers and Traders out of the Country.—

Endorsed Instances of Perfidious and / Dishonorable Hostility in the / French, in Time of Peace.— / 13. / in the E: of Loudoun's of Aug.t 16: / & Oct.r 17: 1757.

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New York October 9th 1757.

Sir,

Last night I had the favour of Your Letter of September 21st by the Boston Post, with a Copy of the Minute of the General Assembly of the 19th of September 1757., By which I see Your Assembly have Voted Seventy Rangers for the defence of the Country, in Place of one hundred I de=
=manded of You in Consequence of His Ma:
=jesty's Orders to me, to apply to the Several Provinces and Colonies in North America, for such Aid as I saw Necessary for carrying on the War either Offensive or defensive.

And in Consequence of His Majesty's repeated Orders signified by his Several Secre:
=taries of State to each of his Governors in his dominions in North America from the Year 1754. down to those Letters which Arrived here on the 1st of May last, which were directly transmitted by me to You.

If You will reconsider all these Orders to Your Predesesors and to Yourself, all which must remain in the Office and relate to You now that Your are Governor, equally as if they had been Transmitted

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whilst You Enjoyed that dignity, You will there see the Kings Orders to His Governors, and His Expectations from his People to Exert themselves in the defence of His do=minions, and of the Lives and Fortunes of His Subjects.

You Judge Extremely right when you say in Your Letter, "that its very Probable that it wou'd have been more satisfactory if the Gentlemen had exactly conformed to my Requisition."

I owen it wou'd be more satisfactory to me to see Your Colony Vying with the other Governments in their Zeal for the Common Cause, then to find that after the King at the Expence of the Mother Country has sent so great a Force for Your Pro=tection both of Land Forces and Fleets, and that I in Consequence of the Instructions he has given me, out of his Paternal Care of his People, have and am at this time diminishing every Expence to the Provinces that I can consistant with their Safety, then it can be to me to see the Assembly of Rhode Island cut off three Tenths of so small a demand as one Hundred men for the Common

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defence of the Country, immediately on the back of the Enemys having so large an Army in the Kings dominions in North America, who are at hand to return if Proper Measures are not taken.

As to what the Gentlemen from Your Province, report of what Pass'd between them and me, last winter, in relation to the Numbers agreed to be furnished at that meet=ing by each of the New England Provinces, Its true, that I did say after the whole Meeting had agreed, that the Number of Men I demanded, was Less than they Expect=ed, and that they would furnish them, but could not agree among themselves, on the number each was to furnish in order to make them up; And at last left it to me, to fix that Quota to Each, as One who could have no Connection but the General one I had with the whole, from the Com=mand the King had Honoured me with, and the Natural Connection, I have with each Man as My Fellow Subject

I did on this Acquaint the Meeting of the Opinion I had formed from the best Information I could get of the Numbers each

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from there Abilitys and Situation ought to fur=
=nish, and the Meeting agreed to it, that I
did then say it should be no Rule for
the future if I found I had Injur'd in it.

But as my duty requires, I have
since Inform'd My self of the Abilitys of Your
Province, of the Losses they sustain by the War,
and of the Profits they have made during
it, and the means by which those Profits
are made, and I know I have done You
no Injustice in the Number I then fix'd
for You to furnish, and I am ready to prove
it, to the King Our Master.

But consider the Case, I last Winter
made my demand for Men, as low as I could
consistant with the safety of the Provinces, in
order to save all Possible Expence, The moment
that the Situation would Permitt; I have
formed a New Plan on the same Principals,
and have Proposed to You that I will dis=
=miss earlier then You Expected Three hun=
=dred & Fifty of Your Quota on Condition
you will furnish me the remaining One hun=
=dred for the Winter, of good Rangers Pro=
=perly Cloath'd for that Service, and in
this I have again gone as Low in my demands,

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as the Plan I propose to Execute will Permitt, and of this I must be a better Judge than any of You, or I must be very improper for the Trust that is reposed in me.

Don't imagine I do business by Auction, that I ask high in order to make a Good Composition, My method is very dif=ferent from that, I have on every Occasion first considerd the necessity of the Service, the dangers that must be Provided against, and on the one side the Anoyances we could give the Enemy, and then have calculated what Numbers were necessary for those Ser=vices, and have even made my demand as Low as I could reasonably expect would Answer those Purposes, if that Number is diminished the Security is lost and the Ser=vice is Put a Stop to, and the War of Course Prolonged.

For those reasons I must Insist on Your calling Your Assembly together again, if they are seperated in order to reconsider this affair, and as it's Your duty both to Your King and to Your Country, it wou'd be Injurious to suppose that you will not Lay before them the repeated Orders You, and

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Your Predesesors have received from His Majesty, and enforce them with all the Arguments You are Master of, to convince them, that it's their duty both to their King & their Country, and that it is their Interest, and tis' their Proffit, for My Proposition to You is, that on Your furnishing me, One hundred Rangers Properly Chosen and Clouth'd for that Service to re=main with me the whole Winter, I would dismiss as early as the Service would Permitt, the remainder of Your Troops, If that is not comply'd with I shall be under a neces=sity of continuing the Campaign much Longer.

And as the Service cannot be carried on in this Country, without Proper Assistance from the Colonys, I still In=sist on the same Number I first de=manded, and shall be very happy to make a good report to the King Our Master of the Proceedings in This Ne=gotiation, — But be the Truth what it will, I will tell him it fairly, as it is.

I shall expect Your answer to this Letter as soon as Possible, as on it, will depend in a great measure my dis=missing of the Provincial Troops. —

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I am with great Regard
Sir,, &ca -

To Governor William Green of Rhode Island

Endorsed To Governor Green | New York October 9th 1757. | 15. | in the E: of Loudoun's of Aug: 16: | & Octr 17. 1757.

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Sir,

I congratulate You upon Your safe Arrival in Carolina, and sincerely rejoice that there is a Prospect of Our being taken so good Care of.

The Circumstances of this provice are very easily stated, for except 500. Stand of Arms, and 40. Barrels of powder, lately granted by His Majesty for the use of our Militia, we are entirely destitute of useful Military Stores.

properly speaking we have no Forts in the Whole Province, but there are four Places that are still called so, Frederica, St. Simon's, Fort William and Augusta, which are Capable of no Defence, being altogether in Ruins.

The former three lie upon the Sea Islands, towards the Southern Boundaries, and were erected by Gen. Oglethorpe. That at Frederica was built of a Composition of Lime called Tabby, of a square Figure, with 4. Bastions, and a little Redoubt towards the Harbour, but it is now quite Ruinous, and the Ditch filled up. There are fifty odd Cannon scatter'd about it of different Sizes from 18. to 6. Pounders, many of them Honeycombed, the Carriages quite decayed,

and but 3. or 4. mounted, and fit for present Service. There are besides a good many Shot, some Grenades, and other Shells, & 2. tolerable Mortars, & some Cohorns. The Barracks are in good Repair. 'Tis garrisoned by a Detatchment of about 30. Men, from the Independent Com=panies of South Carolina.– St. Simon's was a little Square Fort, built of Wood, and is now utterly decayed.– There are 9. tolerable Guns of 18. Pounders that lie buried in the Sand, and the few Men posted there, are rather Marks of our Right, than our Strength. The Condition of Fort William is similar, but I am told there is not above one or two Guns near it. I sent lately a Representation of the State of Augusta to Govr. Lyttleton, which I received from the Commanding Officer of that Place, and which shews it to be in the same Circumstances with the Rest.– We have in the Storehouse here some Grenadoes, 20. Swivels, 20. small Carriage Guns, the Latter much honey Combed, & without Carriages.

I have thought that the building of Log Forts in proper Situations might be one Means of Security, by Affording Places of Retreat, where People might make a Stand, in Case of a

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sudden Attack untill Assistance might arrive; and for this and other purposes, I have called the Assembly together, who are now deliberat=ing upon the best Method to be taken for their Construction; They will not be lasting Things, yet I hope will answer the present Occasion, and be such too as may be defended, if we can obtain any Share in these Troops, or have any raised for Ourselves.—

Thus, Sir, I have given You the best Account of Things here, that I can obtain from Information, for I have been too busy, and too Short a Time in the Country, to have had an Opportunity of inspecting Things myself,— You see by it that we are greatly exposed, incapable of Resisting even the Slight=est Attack, having as yet neither Forts, nor Magazins, nor Funds of any Kind. The Whole people of the province do not amount to 5,000. Whites, & 2,000. Negroes, and those of the former fit to bear Arms, do not exceed 750. which are rather better than Militia usually are, as many of them have been Soldiers, but are so dis=persed that they cou'd afford but very little Help to each other upon any sudden Emergency. Considering the great importance of this Province,

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its excellent Situation, natural Advantage, its being a Frontier against the Spaniards and Creek Indians who are a very formidable Na:=tion, and of how great Consequence it would be in the Hands of the French, I am as:=tonished that it is left so defenceless. With:=out a Military Establishment, Government will never be respected, the Laws cannot operate ef:=fectually, the Indians will be insolent and Wanton, and our Enemies laid under a great Temptation to attack us. I will therefore hope that some of these Troops, that are destined for these parts, will be cantoned among us.

Six Months ago, when Alarms ran very high, & the Indians by some untoward Accidents were upon the Point of committing Hostilities, my Predecessor was addressed to raise some Troops for the Defence of the Colony. He accordingly set on Foot the raising three Troops of Rangers, which was without, I may say, contrary to Instructions, but the Exigence required it.

The province being able to subsist these Men, the Governor drew Bills on Lord Loudoun for that Purpose, some of which were accepted, others not. In the Interim, the Circumstances

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of the French, the Address made use of, and the Disposition of those Savages, brought about a Pacification, but still the Necessity of keeping these Troops on Foot remained, for the Pro=
=vince was threatened with foreign Attacks, but the Number intended to be raised, cou'd not be compleated for want of a proper Fund. The Expedient then made use of was to give Certificates of the Service, which by an En=
=dorsement of the Captains, and an Expec=
=tation that the posture of Affairs wou'd justi=
=fy the Measure, and consequently that the Government wou'd Discharge them, became Nego=
=tiable. Things were in this Situation at my Arrival, since which there have not been at one Time above 40. Men kept up, & latterly not more than twenty odd, that are still maintained by the same Means.

I wrote very amply and strenuously to Lord Loudoun, upon this Subject, in Expec=
=tation that I shou'd be fully authorised by him, either to establish are disband those Men, but to none of the several Letters I sent, have received one Word of Answer. As You are lately come from His Lordship, I hope he has furnished You with Instructions relative to

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this point, about which I have been not a little impatient & embarrassed. If You can afford me any Information herein, it will much oblige me.– I do not know exactly what Number of Men we cou'd be able to raise in Case of an Invasion, but our Captains of the Rangers tell me they cou'd compleat their Companies, which were originally to be of 70. each, cou'd they have immediate Orders for that Purpose.

You may depend, Sir, that no material Information, that comes to my Know:=ledge, shall be kept from You. I wou'd not for Your sake wish to see You here. but if either Curiosity or Business brings You among us it will afford me a singular Pleasure, being

Sir, / Your most obedient

humble Servant

(signed) Henry Ellis.

Savannah in Georgia

24th June 1757.–

Copy

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from Gov.r Ellis to Lt./ Col.o Bouquet / Savannah in Georgia, June 24th 1757/ Enclosed in Col.o Bouquet's to the Earl of / Lou:=douns, of Aug.st 25th – / 16. / in the E: of Loudoun's of Aug.t 16:/ & Oct.r 17: 1757.

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Copy

Charles Town 25th August 1757.

My Lord

Since my last of the 23d June, nothing Material has happen'd in these Parts. The continual rains of this Summer have obliged me to bring the Americans to Town, where they lay under cover, till there Quarters be fitted out.

The Assembly hath granted £4000. — Currency to build Barracks for 500 Men, and the Old ones may do for 200 more, We are not certain Yet if we shall be Provided with the necessary Utensills and Furnitures, This People being very saving, tho' the Province is rich and able to bear that Expence.

We find that the Men are very scarce, and generally averse to the Service. Two Officers having been Employed in Recruiting in this Province have raised only Twelve Men, with great Trouble and Expences; they have met with so many obstructions from the People and the Magistrates, that I do not expect any success, Unless the Parliament would pass an Act entirely calculated for this Continent.

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I have sent Four other Officers to North Carolina, but I am not yet informed what Progress, they have made.

I have heard nothing of the 200. Men from Virginia nor the 200 men from Pensilvania, neither has Governor Dobbs sent the Two Companys of his Province, he finds great difficulties to get money for their Pay,- I doubt whether I shall see either of them.

The Assembly of south Carolina, made two months ago the Necessary Funds for the Pay of 700. Men, Provincial Troops, on the same Terms as the Kings Regular Forces, Two hundred being then already raised upon the higher Pay were disbanded, and no new ones have been raised yet; by which means the Forces of this Province from 200 Men, are realy reduced to nothing.

The Commissions for the Officers of the new Regiment are Issued, and they will raise the Men as fast as they can. The Governor has conferr'd the Command of it to Lieutenant Howarth of Captain Goldsmith Independent Company with the Rank of Lieu=tenant Colonel.

As he is a good Officer, and very fit

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for that Employment, I did agree to it, till Your Lordships pleasure may be known.

The want of these Provincials hath Put it out of my Power to releive the In=dependent Companys on the Frontiers, tho' it is necessary to have them down together, I have reasons to believe that Numbers of their Men are to be discharged, From their First Establishment, having been destin'd for the Province of South Carolina, they receive no Provisions as the other Regular Troops, but in Lieu thereof are allowed two Pence Ster=ling ℔ day, And even now that the Pro=vincial Troops are on the same Footing with the Regulars in Point of Pay and Provisions, no alteration has been made for the Independents.

I hope that the Governor will Pre=vail on the next Assembly to make Pro=visions for them, but in case he should not succeed, I beg to have Your Lordships orders upon it.

These Companys having been compleat=ed tho' with Indefferent Men, The Captains Complain of want of Funds to Recruit them. but I hope to remove that difficulty, and to

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Engage them to find Money and Men, as soon as I shall get them together,

The disbanding the few Provincials has obliged me to send up to Prince George the remainder of the Three Companys amounting to about 30. Men, to reinforce the Garrison and repair the Fort.

Upon Governor Ellis's repeated Instances I have sent to Savannah one Company of the Virginians, to Protect his Province against the Insults of Privateers, who are almost continually cruizing on that Coast.

The Situation of our Indian Affairs is very good, The Cherokees seem to be our sincere Friends, and have made the Path to the French Bloody.

Little Carpenter has discovered a Fort which they have built upon the Ohio, at 16 Journeys from Fort Loudoun, Since that time another Party of Indians have brought a Scalp from thence, taken to be the Scalp of an Officer.

The Creeks who are a numerous Nation and Reputed good Warriors, stand still Neutrals, but it is apprehended were they to declare it wou'd be in favour of the

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French, being kept in Subjection by their Settlements.

Mr. Atkins is not yet come, tho' greatly wanted. After our Arrival here, I had the following reports from the different Forts in South Carolina.

Fort Johnson .... The only defence of the Harbour, is a small Triangular Fort, scarce capable to contain 40. Men The Rampart in a ruin=ous condition.

Fort Fredrick ..... The Barracks entirely gone to decay; the Walls broken down to the ground, the Cannon dismounted, and so rusted, that 5 only are fit for Service, were they on Carriages, One 18 ditto, one 12, One 6 Pound are Spiked, No sign of Platform to be seen.

Fort Moor ...... The Works some part fallen and other Parts expected to fall every day, the whole in a ruinous Condition

Fort Prince George .... The Rampart daily Falling, (Keowee) the ditch capable of being leaped over, even by the Indian Children, who with ease Climb the Rampart at any Part. The Powder Magazine is a small Log building incapable of resisting the least shower of rain.

Fort Loudoun ...... Situated on Tanassee River,

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in the upper Cherrokees, at 500 Miles from Charles Town, is new built but unfinished.

Your Lordship was informed at Phila=delphia, that the Province of Virginia had Built a Fort in the Upper Cherokees, whose Garrison I was to Reinforce. That Fort being only 5 or 6 Miles from Fort Loudoun, the Officers who have seen it, report that it is a mere Buble, Constructed to Humour the In=dians; a Square of 30 paces with two little Bastions, whose Gorges are Four Feet wide, and Garrison'd by a single Old Cherokee who lives there.–

It's Proximity to Fort Loudoun, would equally render it Useless at such a distance, even if it was a good Place.

Charles Town was quite defenceless, great Part of the Cannons without carriages, some buried in the Sand, and the People living in all the Security of a Profound Peace.

Such is, My Lord, the Condition in which we found the Military state of this Province, Georgia was in a worse Situation, as Your Lordship may see by the enclosed Letter from Governor Ellis to me.–

Since our Appearence every thing seems

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to have taken new life, we have raised their Spirits, and every Body seems to have taken New Life, we have raised their spirits, and every Body appears well disposed for the common defence of the Country.

The Assembly has granted Ten thou=sand Pounds Sterling, to be employed in Fortifications for the Town and Province. Fort Johnson will be enlarged, and Lodgements made in it for 200. Men, with a New Battery of 12 or 15 Pieces.

The Works in Town towards the Sea, are carried on with great Chearfullness, and some out works shall be raised on the Land side, the Marshes which surround the Town that way, make it's Situation naturally strong.

We have cleaned, Painted and Proved all the Artilery, and have Actually in the Town Nintey one Cannons of different Size in Battery, and Forty Five more that want only carriages, besides an Old Mortar without Shells, some Cohorns, and Twenty Pieces at Fort Johnson.

The Voluntieer Strodman, who has always serv'd abroad in the Artillery is very usefull to us in that Part, as Lieutenant Hesse in

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the Fortifications,

Port Royal being of great Importance for it's Harbour, I have been there with the Governor, and directed a New Fort to be built, The Assembly has apropriated Fifteen hundred Pounds Ster g. for it, which will be near Suf=ficient. It's Situation will afford a good de=fence to the Channel, and the Town. The works shall immediately be put in Execution.

The Province desires that another small Fort may be erected at George Town, 70 miles to the Northward, We shall do it in time.

The different Forts to the southward of Georgia, are in such dismall condition, that I propose to take a Journey that way, and see at the same time Fort Moor, and Fort Au=gusta, I shall Put in repair the most Important of these Forts, and give over all the rest.

some Artillery left by General Oglethorpe. Lays scattered and Buried in that Province, we shall make the best of it.

We are in General want of all sort of stores, Chiefly of Cannon Balls and Shells, In=structions in that Particular, have been given to Mr. Wright New Agent of this Province in London.

The Militia of S. Carolina amounts to

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about 6000, Men badly Armed—

I have met with no difficulty for the Command and in every measure agreed Perfectly with the Governor—

He is framing an Act to be Proposed next Assembly, for the regulation of some Points of Consequence for the Service, such as Ferriages Quarters Carriages for the Troops, and the Price to be Paid for Provisions by the Soldiers, when sent on Partys or Recruiting in the Province. The People having so immoderately imposed upon us, that there is no carrying on the Service at such a Rate,

We had a meeting at Beaufort with Governor Ellis, who takes all Possible means to raise the People of Georgia from the Wretched condition they were in,

He is Inclosing the Town of Savannah with a good Entrenchment, and building some Stockadoe Forts. The Interest of that Province could not be in better hands.

They are Earnestly desirous of having a Company of Rangers in the Kings Pay, and for what I know, that Establishment wou'd be of great Service in this Country, where the People are Accustomed to run through the

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thickest Woods on Horseback.

Captain Jocelyn, Lieutenant Billings and Ensign Faesch arrived here the 8th Instant, and have Compleated the Vacancies of the di:=vision, I am extremely Pleased with that Ac:=quisition, and most Particularly obliged to Your Lordship for the favour conferred on Young Faesch.

I have sent Regularly the Returns to Genll. Webb, and to the Secretary at War, and Genll. Napier in England.

I understand that the Virginia Regimt. has 200. Men over and above its Complimt. In case the Two Companys we have here shou'd be ordered Back to their Province, I beg to know if Your Lordship would approve that we might enlist such of them as would chuse to enter into the Americans.

I mention only the Virginians having no other Provincials for the Present but the same could be extended to all the Provincial Troops on being sent home, where it would be easy to compleat them again.

Governor Ellis received lately a Letter from Your Lordship by a Vessel from New York, there were other dispatches for Governor Lyttleton which were sent to him by Express from Savannah;

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but unluckily that Packet has been Lost in the River by an Accident. I do not know if there was any order for me.

By a Vessel from Bristol, we hear that she saild from Ireland in Company of the Falkland Man of War, and Ten Transports, having on Board the Battalion of Highlanders Commanded by Lieu:=tenant Colo. Montgomery Bound to Charles Town. She left them Five Weeks ago and they are Ex:=pected daily. That strong Reinforcement is more than sufficient to make up all our defficiency's in Provincial Troops. I shall Inform Your Lordship of their Arrival, by the First Opportunity.

I see by Colonels Young and Haldemands Letters, that Colonel Prevost has wrote to Eng:=land to Obtain Leave to resign His Commission, I was not a little surprised at it but if it is the Case, I take the Liberty to recommend my self very respectfully to Your Lordship for the Com:=mand of that Battalion, the only way of Pre:=ferment Left open to us in the Service.

I am with the Utmost respect

My Lord

Your most Obedient and

most Humble Servant

Henry Bouquet

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Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Lieut. Col.o Bouquet / to the Earl of Loudoun /

Charles Town South Carolina } Aug.t 25th 1757 -

17. / in the E: of Loudoun's of Aug.t 16 / & Oct.r 17: 1757.

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Copy)

My Lord

According to Your Lordships Commands I send You the following Account of our Cruise and the Remarks I made in Chap:=peau rouge Bay & Louisbourg.

Nothing remarkable happened till the 19th when we made Land at Canso, and about 2 oClock was a Breast of Chappea_rouge Bay, at Sun sett saw the Harbour of Louisbourg, and stood off and on all Night. The 20th at day Break cleared & barricado:=ed the Ship, and stood into Chappeau-rouge Bay, & bore down close by the Harbour; I my self from the deck saw 19 very large Ships, two with Flaggs & two with Swallow Tails. The Sea Officers saw 22 Ships, where:=of they say 17. were Line of Battle ships-

The French Admiral hoisted a Chequered Flagg at his Mizen Peake, and a Dutch Ensign at his Main Topmast head; then hoisted an English Ensign at his Mizen Peake (which the Commodore says is the Signal to Unmoor) but did not come out. The Admiral kept to Windward in case of their coming out; at 9. it turned

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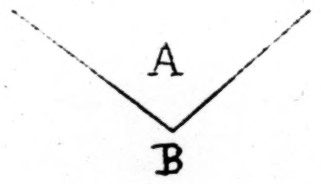
thick and Foggy, and we plied to Windward all night.

In going down I made the following remarks from the Poop & quarter deck - In Chappeau-rouge Bay, at the Place, which to the best of my remembrance is white Point, is a Battery in form of the Figure A



with a Line of Pallisadoes run out from the Point B. into the Water, about 180 Yards; with seven large Tents behind it, each Tent much of the same Form and Size as the Labaratory Tent at Halifax. Nearer the Town I saw a good many People at work on a Line or Battery of red Earth, there appear'd to me to be a good many Embrazures, but the Ships closed them in so fast, I cou'd not see them so distinctly as to reckon them; This work appeard to me to be very near a Straight Line, behind it is an Encampment in a Place cut out in the Woods; a Little nearer the Town, but more to the Westward, is another straggling Irregular Encampment, occupying near as much Ground as that at Halifax, but the Tents set

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down with out any Order, and at a great distance from one another.

At Cape Noir the Cape is quite level=led to a Flatt, & something like a Line or breast work of Earth round it; and with=in that is a Battery in form of with some Embrasures facing what I have called white Point, and the side nesct the Sea appeard to be Flush or en barbet. The Ship closed in this so fast I could not see any Guns.

Between the Town and Island Battery is a Battery of Guns Pointing to the Sea, with a good many Embrasures. I endeavourd to count them Twice, the first time I reckoned seven; the second time only Five, which I suppose happened either from the Motion of the Ship, or by changing my Position, about a quarter of a Mile within the Light house is a long Battery en barbet, made of Loggs or white stone in form of

A the Face nesct the Town, B. Face nesct to the Light house To the East, without the Light house, is a small Encampment for a

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Guard, and a small breast Work to hinder, as I suppose, any Landing there, as I was told some of the New England Men Landed there last Siege

I observed a very high Surff run in Chapeau-rouge Bay, tho' there was so very little Wind, that the Admiral was affraid of being becalmed, which I desired him to take notice of, in case we shou'd ever have oc:casion to go there again.

All these Works that I have mention'd to Your Lordship are new, at least made since I left Louisbourg

If what I have wrote is not Correct, I hope Your Lordship will be good enough to Ex:cuse it, as I am not enough Accustomed to write at Sea, and had no Instruments to draw any Lines with, but wou'd not let Slip the Opportunity to send You the Memorandums I had made.

I am with the most Profound respect

My Lord / Your Lordships

Most Obedient / And most / Humble Servant

Murray

Major to the 45th Regiment.

On Board the Newark Off the Harbour of Halifax 23d August 1757.

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from Major A / Murray to the Earl of / Loudoun – / Off Halifax Harbour Augt. 23d / 1757. / 18. / in the E: of Loudoun's of Augt. 16: / & Octr. 17: 1757.

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Newark at Sea 20th Augt. 1757 off Louisbourg

My Lord

I had the honour of writing to your Lordship the 14th by the Packet, but as its uncertain when Lord Loudoun will dispatch her, Enclosed you have Duplicates of mine by her and the Baltimore.

The 16th all the Fleet got out early, with a small land Breeze, but soon after the wind came to the Southard, and off the Harbour we met an Express with dis=patches from Genl. Web to Lord Loudoun, up=on this I went on board to His Lordship, who Shewed me the letters; they were of different dates, but the last of the 5th In=stant, from Fort Edward, pressing my Lord Loudoun for a Reinforcement, and acquainting him that he had Apply'd to the different Provinces for Assistance, but had Received very little; I am extreamly concerned, to say that by these letters, our Affairs there seem to be in a bad Situation. An Officer whoes name is Parker, had gone out with Three hundred men on a Scouting Party, with most or all the boats, and Canoes, on Lake George, but was met by a Superior force of

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Indiens and Canadians, who had taken all the boats, and that most of the men were also taken or killed not more then fifty of the whole having escaped; By this Mis=fortune the Enemy were become quite masters of Lake George, and that Monsr. Moncalm had transported a great number of men and Cannon to Fort William Henry, which he had invested, and summon'd to surrender, but that Collo. Monroe the Commanding Officer, had re=fused to Complay with the Summons, the Com=munication between the Two Forts was cut off, and Mr. Web had Retired to Encamp under the Cannon of Fort Edward or near it; Great firing was heard at Fort Henry when the Express came away, there were Two Thousand men in the Fort, but Mr. Web did not Ex=pect they could hold out, and Lord Loudoun looks on them as lost: It was expected Mr. Moncalm would afterwards Visit Fort Edward, which Genl. Web was in doubt if they could make a stand there; by a deserter from the Enemy he learnt they were very Strong, as many Ships had arrived early at Quebec, with Troops and Supplys of all kinds. Lord Loudoun upon receiving these dispatches came to

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a Resolution to carry with him Two of the Batalions intended for the Bay of Fundy, and then in Company bound there, My Lord has likewise desired the highland Batalion, to be sent to New York im=mediatly at their Arrival. And I have left orders for the Captain of the Enter=prize (who I understand is their Convoy) to proceed with them there; The Vulture is returned to Halifax to Reimbark a Batalion that is to go to the Bay of Fundy, in the Room of those Lord Lou=down hath carried with him, so that they will have Two Batalions there more then were in Garrison at Beausejour be=fore, which his Lordship thought would be a sufficient force against any Attempt from the Enemy.—

I seperated from My Lord Loudoun the 17th about fifteen Leagues off the Land, the wind Southerly, the Transports stand=ing to the westward, and would my Pilot says fetch half way up to Cape Sable. I have directed Capt. Rous who has the care of the Convoy, being well acquaint=ed on the Coast in these parts; to

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land His Lordship as expeditiously as the winds will permit him, or whatever part of the Coast he shall desire, My Lord being extreamly anxious to get there with the Forces, to Stop the further progress of the Enemy. Upon this In:=telligence I ordered the Sutherland to Strengthen their Convoy for the greater Security of their passage.—

I looked into Louisbourg last night as we have this morning, and find all the Ships that I expected there, seventeen Sail of the Line, and four Frigates, A Vice & Rear Admiral & two Cheif'd Es:=cadries; On the Beach near Gabareuse Bay are several Encampments, and believe Batterys; as there is two new ones on the Light house Point, another on the Beach between the Island Battery and Town: I shall take care to keep to the westward of them that they may not get to Halifax, should they have any such Intention, till they have forced through our Squadron which are Sixteen of the Line, a Frigate, two Sloops, And a fire ship.—

I have judged it Necessary to send this

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by the Speedwell Express for your Lordships Information and have the Honour to be with great regard

My Lord

Your Lordships most
obed.t & most hum.le Ser.t
Fra: Holburne

To

The Right Hon.ble The Earl of Holderness His Maj.ty Principal Secretarys of State

Endorsed Newark, off Louisbourg / Aug. 20th 1757. / Admiral Holburne. / R. 18th Septr. / (By the Speedwell.)

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Newark off Louisbourg 17th Sepr. 1757

Sir

I wrote to the Earl of Holderness by the Speedwell the 20th of last Month, and Enclose a Duplicate of my letter to His Lordship by which you will see the Situation of this Squadron at that time.

I have now the honour to acquaint you, that after I had satisfied myself, by a clear and distinct View of the Enemy's force in the Harbour of Louisbourg, I thought it necessary to call together the three Senior Officers and to advise with them in what manner I might best employ the Squadron for His Majestys Service and the annoyance of the Enemy, They agreed with me that it was not adviseable to continue cruizing off the Port of Louisbourg, as the Squadron would be thereby exposed to the risque of Seperation in the Fogs so frequent on this Coast; it was therefore agreed to Rendez Vous in Torbay seven Leagues to the westward of Canso and to remain there, till with all the Expedition we could, we had fitted the two Sloops for fireships, but whilst we were considering this matter a thick Fog came on and obliged

the Gentlemen to hasten back to their Ships, and the next day on a more strict exam=
=ination of the most skillfull of the Pilots Torbay was found to be very rocky, and open to southerly Winds, which made it un:
=safe for the ships to ride in, beside that whilst we were embay'd here the Enemy might pass us and get to the westward. For these reasons the RendezVous was changed to Halifax, when we came off this Port, the wind blowing right onshore, and the weather thick & hazey, I thought it most adviseable to come to an anchor in the Entrance of the Harbour, and this judged the more necessary as the Ferret Sloop I had sent before me for In:
=telligence and dispatches had mistaken her course and was not arrived, and as I had some matters to settle with Major General Hop:
=son and the Lieutenant Governor relative to the Protection and safety of the Province. As soon as I came to an anchor I ordered all the Ships to keep themselves in readiness for the Sea on the shortest notice, and it was resolved by the Rear Admiral, Commodore Holmes, Capt. Fowke and myself, that we should remain in the Entrance of the Harbour, where

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we had anchored, and that we should keep the Ships together that we might be ready to protect and assist any part of His Majty's. Dominions in North America that might be in danger from the Enemy, and that in the meantime the best sailing Vessels that could be got should be hired to go off the Coast of Louisbourg to procure Intelligence and to watch the motions of the Enemy's Fleet.—

Four Transports with part of the Highland Battalion arrived here the 24th. past, but the Enterprize with the rest of the Transports not before the 28th. I dispatched her next day to Boston with the Money she had in for the Troops, and from thence ordered her to Anapolis for the Protection of that Place together with the Portmahon.—

The Somerset & Eagle arrived here the 5th. in the Afternoon when I had the honour of your letter of the 7th. of July with the very agreable news of my being reinforced by four Line of Battle Ships, I lost no time in compleating the Somerset & Eagle for Sea, and tho' I ordered all the boats in the Fleet to assist them, it was the 9th.

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before we could weigh, and then with a very faint Land Breeze, which soon failing we were obliged to come to an anchor, the 10th we weighed again with a better prospect of getting out, but the land Breeze failing be:=fore we could clear the Land, we were obliged to Return, and come to an Anchor once more in ye Entrance of the Harbour to prevent some of the Ships driving ashore —

The eleventh in the morning contrary to the opinion of the Pilots I made the Signal to weigh and happily got out, but the wind soon shifted to the eastward. When we were three or four Leagues off the Land, the Cruizer Sloop joined me, by her I have the honour of your Letter of the 17th July with a Duplicate of that of the 7th of the same month, an hour or two after the Cruizer join'd me we saw two large Ships to the westward which I take to be the Devon:=shire and Prince Frederick, I have sent a Sloop with orders to Capt. Gordon for both Ships to join me without going into Port, as I chuse rather to supply them with water or what else they may want from the Ships with me —

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I applied to the several Goverments on the Continent for a Supply of men to re=place such as we had lost by death and Desertion, but my applications of this kind proving alltogether unsuccessfull, I was reduced to the necessity of making a Press at Hali=fax, by which, and the detachment of the Battalions from that Place, I have just been able to compleat the Complements of the Ships, I discharged immediatly all such men as had been taken from coasting or provision Vessels, those I kept having been chiefly press'd from the Transports, which I have ordered to be Man'd with recover'd men from the Hospital, so that I hope they will be ready to proceed to England with the other Transports when they return from New York and the Bay of Fundy, and when the whole are got together I have ordered them a Convoy consisting of two Frigates a Sloop and the two Bombs.—

Yesterday at Noon the Devonshire & Prince Frederick join'd me but as I had sent the Centurion & Hunter the 14th. to look into Louisbourg I defer'd closing my Letter till their Return—

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The Captains Mantell & Laforey are just now return'd and acquaint me that they had been baffled by winds which pre=vented their getting near enough to look into Louisbourg but that they saw a man of War off that Port making Signals, as I had reason to believe the Enemy was appriz'd of my being on the Coast I thought it no longer necessary to keep at a distance as I once intended in hopes of drawing the whole or some part of them out after Cruizers, and looking on it to be of great consequence to give you certain In=telligence of their Strength I went near enough with the Squadron to see their Vice & Rear Admirals & the two Chef d'Escadre with the same number of Line of Battle Ships & Frigates we had formerly seen.–

There is no judging when the Enemy will move but I think it probable they will make a push to get out about the latter end of this Month or sooner if they are short of Provisions, it is equally difficult to guess at the Course they will steer when they get near the Coast of France as that will depend much on the Intelligence they

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may have of the Motions of our Fleets but I am inclin'd to think Brest is the Port they will endeavour to make, in this View I intend to Steer for Ushant & have given out a Rendez Vous of fifteen Leagues to the westward of it a copy whereof I enclose.

As its my indispensible duty, it shall likewise by my earnest Endeavour to draw the Enemy out to Action, but if I should fail in this I will do my utmost to keep near them, and should they make their Escape from the Harbour by my being blown off the coast or by any other unavoidable Accident, I will then follow them close to Europe and Exert my utmost dilligence to fall in with them in the passage or to meet them on the Coast of France, I enclose a Line of Battle of the Ships with me with a List of the rest and how they are Em=ploy'd –

I dispatch the Hunter with this as she sails better than any other Sloop with me & Capt. Laforey having been yesterday within Gun Shot of the Fortress of Louisbourg will be able to answer any enquires you Shall

think fit to make relating to the Situation of the Enemy, I have the Honour to be with the greatest respect

Sir

Your Most obed.t & most

Humble Ser.t

Fra: Holburne

I forgot to take notice that on the Tenth two of the Vessels I hir'd to go off Louisbourg with a Commission Officer in each return'd and ac:=quainted me that they look'd in the 7th. and that all the men of war with the Admirals and Chef d'Escadres which we saw the 19th & 20th of last month were still in that Port

F: H:

To

The Right Hon.ble William Pitt Esq.r

Endorsed Newark, off Louisbourg | Sep.r 17th 1757 | Vice Adm.l Holburne | R 14th Oct.r by the | Hunter Sloop.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Line of Battle and Other Vessels at present with Vice Admiral Holburne this 10th. Septemr. 1757.

Frigates	Rates	Ships	Guns	Men	Commanders	Division
	4	Windsor	60	420	Capt. Faulkner	
	4	Kingston	60	400	Parry	
	3	Captain	64	460	Amherst	Sr. Chas. Hardy Knt. Rear Adml. of ye Blue
Hunter	3	Invincible	74	700	Sr. Chas. Hardy Capt. Bentley	
	3	Nassau	64	480	Sayer	
	4	Tilbury	60	400	Barnsley	
	4	Defiance	60	420	David	
	3	Northumberld.	70	520	Ld. Colvill	
Nightingale	3	Newark	80	620	Fras. Holburne Esqr. Capt. Holburne	Fras. Holburne Esqr. Vice Adml. of the Blue
Lightning fire Ship	3	Orford	68	520	Spry	
Gibralter Prize	3	Bedford	64	480	Fowke	
	4	Sunderland	60	400	Mc. kenzie	
	4	Nottingham	60	400	Marshall	
	3	Terrible	74	600	Collins	
Ferret	3	Grafton	65	535	Chas. Holmes Esqr. Capt. Cornwall	Chas. Holmes Esqr. Commodore
	3	Somerset	68	520	Hughes	
	4	Centurion	52	350	Mantell	
	4	Eagle	60	420	Pallisier	

Fra: Holburne

The 15th. At Noon the Devonshire & Prince Frederick join'd us and I have put the Centurion out of the Line.

Fra: Holburne.

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Other Ships and Vessels under the Command of Vice Admiral Holburne that are not with him this 10 Sept. 1757 And on what service they are Employ'd —

Arc-en-Ciel . . .	Unservicable at present in Halifax harbour
Sutherland	Gone Convoy to Lord Loudon and the Troops to New York is to return to Halifax
Kennington . . . / Hawke	Gone Convoy to Lord Loudon and the Troops to New York is to return to Halifax
Winchelsea . . .	Gone Convoy to Lord Loudon and the Troops to New York goes to her Station at South Carolina.
Jamaica	Gone Convoy as Above and goes to the Bahama Island her Station
Success . . . . . / Vulture	Gone to the Bay of Fundi wt. Governor Lawrence
Enterprize . . . . / Portmahon	Gone to Anapolis & to remain there till the first week in Octr. & then to return to Halifax.
Granada, Furnace } Bombs	at Halifax waiting to return to Europe.

When we get all the Transports together to be Convoyed by the Enterprize, Portmahon, Vulture and two Bombs their heaviest Mortars to be put into the Two Frigates and hope they will sail early in October

Endorsed List of the Ships & Vessels / under Com=mand of / Vice Admiral Holburne / in Vice Admt. Holburne's / of the 17. Sept. 1757.

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Newark in Halifax harbour 8th Septr. 1757.

Rendezvous in case of Seperation (sic)

As I intend to cruize with the Squadron from
eight to ten leagues South of Scaterie; you
are in case of seperation to return to that
Station

But if you should not join me there,
and should see that the French Fleet from
Louisbourg have left that Port and are sail:
=ing homewards, or receive certain intelligence
that they have done so, Or, if we should
get sight of the French Fleet with the Squa:
=dron before any such seperation and give
them chace to the Eastward and follow
them, by which we may judge they are
bound to Europe, you are under any of
these circumstances in case of seperation to
follow them as close as may be and with
the utmost expedition West fifteen Leagues
off Ushant, in order if possible to fall in
with them either before they reach Europe,
or on the Coast of France; Taking care
upon your getting sight of the French Fleet
and following them as above directed to
leave or send one of the Sloops or small:
=est Ships, that may be with you to the

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Station off Scaterie to acquaint the rest of the Squadron of your having seen, and that you are following the French Fleet, and that you shall proceed West of Ushant fifteen Leagues to join any of His Majs. Ships or Squadrons that may be cruizing there for the intercepting the Enemy's Ships: And you are to continue on that Station for fourteen days at the Expiration of which time you are to make the best of your way to Ports=mouth and acquaint the Secretary of the Admiralty of your proceedings—

Fra: Holburne

Endorsed Rendez Vous / in Vice Admiral / Holburns of the 17th Sepr. / 1757. / Rendez Vous

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Newark at Sea 29th. Septemr. 1757.

Sir

I had the honour to acquaint you in my Letter of the 17th a Duplicate whereof I enclose, that I was then cruizing off Louisbourg in hopes of falling in with the Enemy's Fleet near that Port, or in their Passage to Europe whither I intended to follow them close should they escape me here.

I have now the inexpressible Mortification to acquaint you that on the 24th being Ten Leagues South of Louisbourg, towards the Even=ing of that Day it began to blow very hard at East, and had the wind continued in that Quarter we could have done very well, as there was Room enough for the Ships to drive, but veering round to the Southward it blew a Perfect Hurricane, and drive onshore, the Wind continued Violent till near eleven next day, when providentially & happily for us it came round to the westward of the South, we had but just room to wear the Ships clear of Breakers, and saw several Ships at an An=chor with most of their Masts gone, without having it in our power to give them the least Assistance in this great Distress, and had the

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Wind continued to blow onshore but one hour longer every Ship of the Squadron must un=
=avoidably have been lost.—

I stood off seven Leagues & brought to, in order to pick up and assist as many ships as I could, the 26th. in the morning we saw sixteen Sail, six of them dismasted and two of these being a great way to Leeward I sent the Bedford & Defiance to take them in Tow and bring them to Halifax if the Wind & Weather would permitt, but if they should by the Wind's continuing westerly have no Prospect of geting to Halifax they were to proceed with them to Aga Fort in Newfound=
=land and from thence to England.—

— I am now so far to the Southward as the Isle of Sable endeavouring to get to Halifax, and have dispatch'd the Lightning to go off Louisbourg with orders for any of our Cruizers she may find there, and two Transports I had ordered with Water, to leave the Station and return to Halifax, after which Capt. Martin is to look into Louisbourg to ob=
=serve the Condition of the Enemy, who I have reason to believe have not escaped the Rage of the Hurricane, as for some part of the

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Time, it blew right into the Harbour.

I cannot enough regret this great & melancholy Disaster to His Majty's Ships, as after my last Reinforcement I found myself in so good a Condition to watch the Enemy's Motions, and had flatter'd myself they could not well escape me here, or in their Passage to Europe.

I enclose a State of the Ships now with me and the best account I can collect of such as I have not seen since the Storm.

By the time I have the Squa-dron fitted for their Passage Home, the Season will be so far advanced that there can be no danger of the Enemy's making any Attempt on Halifax, it is only the Security of that Place that makes me prefer returning to it rather than to to take the advantage of the Wind and go directly to Newfoundland, I shall lose no time in fitting the Ships for their Passage Home, and in proceeding with them to England as soon as that can possibly be done

I have the Honour to be with

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the greatest respect

Sir

Your most obed.t and

most Humble Ser.t

Fra: Holburne

The Right Hon.ble William Pitt Esq.r

Endorsed Newark at Sea 29th / Sept. 1757 / Adm.l Holburne. / R. Nov.r 6th: / (by Captain Hartwell / in the Cruizer Sloop)

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State of the Squadron under the Command of Vice Admiral Holburne 25 Septemr. 1757—

Windsor Kingston Northumberland Newark Oxford Terrible Somerset	In Company with all their masts Standing
Bedford — Defiance —	All their Masts, Sent to the Eastward to take two Ships in Tow
Invincible Captain Sunderland	Fore masts and Bowsprits Standing, and have raised Jury masts to carry them into Port; Are in Tow
Nottingham	Spoke to by the Oxford yesterday, wants no Assistance; has a Fore mast Bowsprit & Jury masts—
Grafton Nassau	Have been Seen with no Masts nor Bowsprits Standing
Devonshire Eagle	Have been Seen their Fore Masts and Bowsprits only Standing
Prince Frederick Centurion Tilbury	We have no certain Accounts of; but Some of these must be the Ships the Bedford and Defiance went after

Nightingale has lost her Mizen Mast & Maintopmast

It is Generally thought that the Tilbury is lost, and every Soul perished; and we are in Some pain about the Ferret, as She must have

been in the Storm, we had lost Company for two days, and She is a very indifferent Sloop. Sails badly and very Crank, The Cruizer who I had Sent to Halifax to hasten the water out to us was very near foundering, having been under water Several times, with the loss of his Boats, guns & Mizen Mast and every one thing Above Deck - and three Men he just made Shift to keep above Water; Some of the Ships have lost a few Men and guns & Anchors; Bread and Powder greatly damag=ed having had so much water in their Holds, - Booms and Boats many gone

Fra: Holburne

Endorsed in Adml. Holburne's / letter of Sept. 29th. / 1757

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Newark at Sea 30th Septemr. 1757

Sir

I had the honour to write to you yester=day by the Cruizer Sloop and herewith en=close a Duplicate of that Letter

I am now to acquaint you that find=ing the disabled Ships very much retarded my Passage to Halifax, where I thought it might be of great Importance to carry the Serviceable Ships for the Protection of that Place, should the Enemy have any Designs against it; and should all their Ships re=main unhurt by the late Storm, it is not unlikely that the damages they saw many of ours sustain on their Coast, might en=courage them to some such attempt, at least I thought it became me to be very watchfull of them in this Respect; I considered likewise that the disabled Ships were in so Shatter'd a Condition as to be but ill able to bear a Winter Passage, and that having now all the Month of October before them in which there is often a great deal of moderate Weather, there was a much greater probability of their reaching England in Safety than if they were delayed by being carried into Halifax, for

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these and other reasons it was judged most adviseable by the Rear Admiral the two Senior Captains and myself to dispatch them immediatly to England, and I have accord=ingly directed Sir Charles Hardy to host his Flag on board the Windsor, one of the Ships that has all her Masts standing; and to take under his Command the disabled Ships in the Margin, with such others as he may meet with in his Passage, and to proceed with the Whole to the first Port he can reach in England. I have the Honour to be with the greatest respect

Invincible
Captain
Sunderland
Windsor

Sir

Your most obedt. & most

Humble Servant

Fra: Holburne

The Right Honble. William Pitt Esqr.

Endorsed Newark at Sea 30th Sept./1757/ Adml. Holburne/ R. Novr. 6th/ (in Sir Chales Hardy's/ letter of Novr. 5th. 1757)

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Duplicate

Newark in Halifax Harbour 13 Octr. 1757

Sir

I had the honour to write you the 30th. last Month by Sir Charles Hardy, to inform you of the Situation of this Squadron, I enclose a Copy of my Last and am now to acquaint you that I arrived here the 4th. in the Evening with eight Line of Battle Ships one of which I met at Sea dismasted & as the Wind was then favor=able thought it best to bring her with me to this Port.

The 30th. I dispatch'd the Lightning off Louisbourg to observe the State of the Enemy and with Rendez Vouses for any disabled Ships she might meet with, Capt. Martin was afterwards to make the best of his way to this Port but he is not yet return'd

I found the Sutherland here she having come in from New York a few Days before me, I sent her immediatly to Sea to look out for & assist such disabled Ships as she might meet with between this & Louisbourg.

The 5th. a Frigate & a Sloop arrived from New York with the Transports which I

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immediatly ordered to be got ready for their Passage Home, and have appointed the Not=:tingham, Centurion, & the two Bombs, having taken the Mortars into the great Ships, for their Convoy, they could not possibly sail sooner, as the Nottingham and Centurion want=:ed considerable Repairs and a great deal of fitting.—

The Sixth the Kennington & Gibraltars Prize sail'd to look into Louisbourg for gain=:ing Intelligence of the State of the Enemy & the Condition of their Ships.

The Seventh the Defiance arrived here & brought me a Letter from Capt. Pallisser in the Eagle of which I enclose a Copy, Capt. Bavid informs me he saw the Bedford with the Prince Frederick in Tow, and be=:lieves as he lost Company with them in the Night that they bore away to England as I hope all the other disabled Ships have done.

The seven Ships that remain with me have been fitting ever since our arrival here, having all of them suffered considerably in the late Gale of Wind, but they are now ready for the Sea.

I am waiting for the Return of our

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Cruizers and shall conduct myself according to the Intelligence they may bring, in the best manner I can for His Maj.ty's Service, as soon as I find myself at Liberty to leave this Place be assur'd Sir I will lose no Time in returning to England as nothing but the Security of this Province detains me here at this advanc'd Season of the Year.

The Highland Battalion embark'd the 10th, the Earl of Loudoun having desired their being sent to New York.

I ordered the Enterprize & Portmahon to leave Anapolis the 5th & return hither and have been looking for them every Day since, as soon as they arrive the Transports with Coll.o Frasers Battalion shall have Con=voy to New York, where after landing the Troops they are to proceed with the same Convoy without loss of Time to England.—

Governor Lawrence with a Frigate, a Sloop, and Transports for two Battalions, are still in the Bay of Fundy, I could not think of detaining at so great an Expence, so large a Number of Transports as are now ready to sail, till Mr. Lawrence should ar=rive, but rather to send those he brings

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with some other Convoy, as soon as they shall return, I send this by the Nottingham whose Captain has the care of the Convoy and have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect

Sir

Your most obedient

& most Humble Servant

Fra: Holburne

The Right Hon ble William Pitt Esq r.

Endorsed Duplicate / of Adm l. Holburne's / letter dated Halifax Oct. 13 th. 1757 sent by / the Nottingham not / yet arrived. / in Adm l. Holburne's / letter of 15 th. Oct. 1757

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Newark in Halifax Harbour 15th Oct. 1757

Sir

In my Letter of the 13th by the Notting=
=ham, I had the honour to acquaint you, that on the 6th I ordered Capt. Stott of the Gibraltars Prize with two other Cruisers to go off Louis=
=bourg to look into that Port, and carefully to observe, the Situation, Number and Condition of the Enemys Ships; – Capt. Stott return'd yes=
=terday and brings the Intelligence contain'd in the enclos'd Report he has made to me.

By the present Situation of the Enemys Ships as they are all ready for the Sea, and as this is about the Time in which they usually leave North America, I am of opinion they will, if they have not already, taken the advantage of this favorable Wind, which has been northerly these three days, and sail to Europe.

As I am no longer in a Condition to obey that Part of the Letter you did me the honour to write to me the 17th July, to act with Vigor against the Enemy – I think it of Importance to comply with that part of it still in my Power directing me to gain the best Intelligence I can of the Strength, Condition

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& future Destination of the Enemys Ships that dispositions might be made for intercepting them on the Coast of France as they return Home, for that Purpose I dispatch Capt. Stott to Eng=land, and have directed him to go Express with my Letters that he may answer any Ques=tion you Shall think proper to ask him.—

The Lightning is just return'd but brings no Intelligence as she was chac'd off the Coast of Louisbourg by a large Ship and a Frigate the 7th

This Evening a Sloop sails, as I think it necesary to continue sending a Succession of Vessels to observe the Motions of the Enemy that I may lose no Time in returning Home with the Squadron as soon as I can think myself at Liberty to do it with Security to His Majestys Dominions in these Parts.

I look daily for the Return of the Ken=sington with further accounts of the Enemys Ships.

I enclose a Copy of my Letter by the Notting=ham & have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect

Sir / Your most obedient

and most Humble Servant

Fra: Holburne

The Right Honble. William Pitt Esqr.

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Newark in Halifax Harbour 14 Augt. 1757

My Lord

I acquainted Your Lordship in my last of the 6th Instt. that I was laying with the Squadron ready for proceeding off Louisbourgh. Am sorry to tell you that We have been detained ever since with Southerly Winds blowing right into the Harbour, and sometimes very hard Gales with thick Weather which would have prevented the Ships keeping together had We got out: Lord Loudoun is on board and All the Transports both for New York and Bay of Fundi ready the first moment the Wind offers, and as that is the Case I purpose seeing them All clear of this Coast a few Leagues, as none that may be Spies either on Shore, Or at Sea upon the Look out may see us seperate. this I thought was most proper to do, the Frigates and Sloops being thought sufficient for their Convoy; (as indeed by the French Squadron here We can spare None of our large Ships) After which I shall make the best of my way off Louisbourgh.

Lord Loudoun acquaints me He intends carrying the Packet with him, and dispatch her either in his passage, Or on his Arrival at

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New York, by whom this goes with a Copy of my last.

When I come off Louisbourgh with the Squa=dron, if any thing new, or worth Your Lordships Notice, I shall dispatch an Express from thence, but not otherwise: I shall endeavour to conduct myself in the best manner I can for his Majts Service, according to the motions and Strength of the Enemy in these Seas, and when I find their Force gone, and that they can make no Attempts upon any of his Majesty's Colonys here, I shall loose no time in proceeding with the great=est part of the Squadron to England; As they can't leave any Ships in Louisbourgh to winter, I shall think of leaving only a few of the smallest here for the Safety of the Harbour and Garrison I am with the greatest respect

My Lord

Your Lordships

most obedt & most humble

Servant

Fra: Holburne

The Rt Honble the Earl of Holderness One of his Majts Principal Secretrys of State

Endorsed Halifax. Augt 14th 1757/ V:A: Holburne/ Rx Novr 21st

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Newark at Halifax 20th October 1757

Sir.

I had the honor to write to you by Capt. Stott the 14th instant, I inclose a Duplicate of that Letter, and have now to acquaint you that the Kennington and Hawke are ready to Sail off Louisburg to observe the motions of the Enemy, and as from my Intelligence and all appearance they will very speedily leave that Port, upon which, I have directed Capt. Diggs to make the best of his way to acquaint you therewith, and the Hawke to rejoin me, that I may lose no time in returning with the Squadron.

The 12th & 13th instant two Flags of Truce arrived here from Canada, but last from Louisburg, with part of three hundred Prisoners taken after the Capitulation at Fort William Henry by the Indians, and carried to Quebec; the English Pilots and Officers in these Vessels acquaint me that they left Sixteen Sail of Line of Battle Ships in the harbour, and saw two more off the Port of Louisburg, from whence they had gone to Canada, and were then returning; and that there were also four Frigates in the harbour.

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We likewise learn that the Enemy are all ready to Sail, except the Tonnant, and Bien acquise of forty Guns, both of which had been drove ashore in the late Gale of Wind, and received consider=
=able damage; that they are very short of Pro:
=visions, and have been Sickly. That they have distributed the remains of the Tilbury's Crew, being two hundred and Eighty and one hundred Prison:
=ers taken in the Province Snow of New England, with others, amounting in the whole to about Nine hundred, taken by the Men of War early in the Season in their Passage from France, and the West Indies to Louisburg: a few small Vessels of little value have lately been taken to the South:
=ward of the Latitude of Forty, by Privateer Schooners, as soon as a Twenty gun Ship, or Sloop shall re:
=turn from Anapolis or the Bay of Fundy, which I have been hourly looking for; I will dispatch one of them to cruize for Privateers in that Latitude; I have the Honour to be with the greatest respect

Sir

your most obed^t. &

Most Humble Servant

Fra: Holburne

The Right Honble. William Pitt Esqr.

Endorsed Halifax 20th. Oct /1757/ Adm^l. Holburne / R Decr. 4th.

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Newark, Halifax 4th. Novem^r. 1757—

Sir

I had the Honor to write to You the 14th. of last Month by the Gibralter's Prize, and by the Kennington the 20th. I enclose duplicates of these Letters, and have now to acquaint You that the Kennington and Hawke sail'd the 21st. past to go off Louisburg and observe the Motions of the Enemy: When all, or the greatest part of their Squadron should leave Louisburg, Capt. Diggs had Orders to make the best of his way to England running in the Latitude of Ushant, and to speak with such of our Cruizers as he might meet with for the Information of the Commander in Chief of any of His Ma:=jesty's Squadrons cruizing in that Latitude; and the Hawke was to return to this Port to give me Notice of the Enemy's Motions.

The 22d. of last Month the Scarborough arrived: By her I had the Honor of Your Letter of the 21st. September, and in compliance therewith have given Orders to the Eight Ships of the Line named in the Margin to prepare for Wintering at Halifax under the Command of Lord Colvill the senior Captain, as Sir Charles

Northumberland
Terrible
Kingston
Orford
Arc-en-Ciel
Sutherland
Defiance
Somerset

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Hardy is gone home.

I have likewise fitted a Wharf in such manner as will serve to Carreen Frigates and the smaller Line-of-Battle-Ships, and according=ly the Sutherland of Fifty Guns is now on the Carreen; as soon as she is clean'd the Arc-en-Ciel shall be ready to take her Place, and the Work of Carreening be carried on with all the dispatch that can be made, as long as the Weather will permit.

I have applied to Governor Laurence for Ground on George's Island (that being for many Reasons the properest Place) to build a Carreening-Wharf, and Store Houses for the conveniency of Cleaning and Fitting the large Ships: The Governor having readily agreed to whatever may be necessary in this Matter, I have directed a number of Men to be sent from the Ships for leveling the Ground, and during my Stay here shall do every thing else that may be necessary for forwarding the Work; leaving directions for carrying on and compleat=ing the same.

The 25th. past the Scarborough sailed with the Highland-Battalion, she being the first Frigate I could get for this Service after my

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Lord Loudoun had desir'd their being sent to New York; From thence the Transports are to proceed to England under the same Convoy, if my Lord shall not think proper to de=tain them.

The 29th the Portmahon sail'd to look for the Hennington and Hawke, and to return to this Port with what Intelligence Capt Wallis could be able to obtain.

Mr. Lawrence with a Body of Troops and Nine Transports under Convoy of a Frigate and a Sloop returned from the Bay of Fundy the 2d. I immediately ordered the Transports to get ready for their Re=turn Home, and they will sail the 6th under Convoy of the Success, whose Cap=tain carries my Letters.

When I can learn how the Enemy's Ships are dispos'd of for the Winter, in obedience to His Majesty's Instructions, I shall lose no time in returning to England with the Newark as she is the least fit to remain here, and the only Ship of the Line above the Number directed to be left. I think it necessary to leave the Portmahon and Hawke here, as all the other Frigates and

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Sloops are sent to their Stations, or to Eng:
=land with Convoys or Dispatches.

I am with the greatest respect

Sir

your most obedt.

and most Humle. Servt.

Fra: Holburne

P. S.

5 Novemr. 1757.

The Hawke Sloop arrived to day, forced in by Stress of Weather, having sprung a Leak, and her Bowsprit: She parted from the Kenning:
=ton the 30th. past; three days before. They looked into Louisburg where the French Fleet still remain'd.

The Right Honourable William Pitt Esqr.

Endorsed Halifax Novr. 4th. 1757. / Vice Adml. Holburne / Rx Decr. 6th. by the Success.

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Newark at St. Helens 7th. Decr. 1757

Sir

I have the Honour to acquaint you of my Arrival here in the Newark, having sailed from Halifax the 14th. of last Month with the Lightning Fire Ship in Company, where I left Eight Sail of the Line, agreeable to your Directions to me of the 21st. September, under the Command of Lord Colvill.

Terrible
Kingston
Orford
Arc-en-Ciel
Sutherland
Defiance
Somerset
Northumberland
Hawke Sloop

The Portmahon having arrived the 8th. in the Evening with Intel=ligence of the French Fleet being All sailed from Louisbourgh, except Two Ships of the Line and a Frigate, which I hope Capt: Diggs has acquainted you of long be=fore now: A particular List of them I enclose you, which I had from a very intelligent Master of One of Our Vessels that was carry'd in there, and came as Pilot to One of the Flags of Truce to Halifax: I lost no time after I had receiv'd this Intelligence in sailing, as I had some Affairs to settle with regard to the Squadron. We have had hard Gales mostly the Pas=sage, and are just arrived: Nothing else

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material I shall be more particular when I have the honour of waiting on you being with the greatest respect

Sir

your most obed^t.
and most Humble Ser^t.
Fra: Holburne

R^t. Honble. Will: Pitt.

Endorsed St. Helen's Decr. 7th. 1757. / V.A. Holburne. /
R^y 8th.

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A List of French Ships at Louisburg

Ships Names	Guns
Le Formidable	80
Le Tonnant	80
Le Duc de Bourgogne	80
Le Defenceur	74
Le Diadême	74
L' Hector	74
L' Hero	74
Le Glorieuse	74
Le Dauphin Roial	70
Le Superb	70
L' Achille	64
Le Bizarre	64
Le Belliqueuse	64
Le Célébre	64
L' Inflexible	64
L' Eveillé	64
Le Valiant	64
Le Sage	64
Frigates	
Le Fleur de lys	30
La Commette	30
La Bienacquise	40
La Brune	30
La Fortuné	30

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W
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New York February 14th 1758.—

Sir,

In order to lay the Kings Affairs, in this Country, before You, it will be necessary to run over a Series of Facts that have happened, and have created a great deal of business to me, since I had the honor to write to You last, in the course of which, I shall given an Account of the Steps I have taken on them; And that You may be the more enabled to judge, of how far I have acted properly, I shall annex Copies of the Letters, that have passed on the material parts of those Affairs.

Whilst I was at Albany, and the Forces were on their March to their Winter Quarters, the French made an Inroad, with a body of Cannadians and Indians, into the German Flatts, near Herkermers, which is our most advanced Post on the Mohawk River, a thing impossible to prevent in this Country, where the out Settlers are so dispersed.— The first Intelligence we had of this, was by a Message from the Oneida Indians, (thro' whose Country they came) to Captain Townsend of the 22d Regiment, who Commanded the Garrison, of two hundred Men, in Fort Herkermer, to Acquaint him, that a

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great body of French were Marching that way: this he received on the Evening of the 11th of November, and next morning the Enemy plunder'd and burnt the Houses; and killed and carried off, the remainder of the People that fell into their hands; by which means, the stroke was struck before the Intelligence reached me; And as the Indians had so often given false Intelligence, of motions of the Enemy that way, that had not the least foundation, Sir William Johnson who lives on that River, was so little Alarmed, that he had gone no further, than to Order the Militia to hold themselves in readiness to March; notwithstanding of which, as the Enemy have but a short March across, from Swigatchie to the great carrying place, I gave Lord Howe an Order, to take the Command of the two Regiments at Schenectady and the Posts on the Mohawk River that, he might take what Force from them he saw necessary, without waiting for further Orders; and I threw in part of the 42d Regiment of Highlanders into Schenectady, that there might be no want of numbers for this Service. Lord Howe put part of the Troops on their March, and went on himself;

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called at Sir William Johnsons, who was Ill in Bed but had his People about him, by whom he Corresponded with me at Albany, from thence Lord Howe went on to Herkermers, with part of the Militia of that County, and the few Indians that could be Collected, but on the Evening of the 13th. before he got there, the Enemy were retired, except a few Oneida Indians, who burnt a Mill and some Hutts above Herkermers. – When His Lordship sent out the Indians and White Men, to recon=-noitre their numbers, they returned without seeing them, but reported, from the Noise they made, their numbers to be great; and when he proposed to them, to send out a Second party, to discover their numbers with certainty, they absolutely refused to go if any White Men went with them; And from that time he had no manner of Use of them, altho' they were Mohawks; which further Confirmed the Intelligence I had had, that the Six Nations had been debauched by the French, and were in danger, of even acting openly next Cam=-paign against Us. here I shall leave the Indian Affairs, in order to Collect them as much, as the nature of them will permit me,

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into one part of my Letter.

The Enemy retired after having done the above mischief, but the Country there have been ever since, in apprehensions of another Visit, which has obliged me, besides the 200. Men, of the 22d Regiment, at Fort Herkermers, the 100. Men at Conajahora, and the 100. Men at Fort Hunter, of the 27th Regiment, to throw up a body of 100. New York Rangers; to which Major General Abercromby has since added, part of the Massachusetts and New Jersey Rangers.

The next thing that happened, in point of time, was the dispute, between Governor Sharp of Maryland and the Assembly of that Province, in relation to the Provincial Troops raised by them, the Command of which Troops, the Assembly insist on wresting out of His hands as Governor, and indeed out of the Kings hands, and would take into their own hand the Sole Command and destination of them; on which the Governor writ to me for advice, how he was to proceed, in case the Bill for that purpose was presented to him for his Concurrence; and to warn me, of the danger of Fort Cumberland being deserted by it's Garrison, in case the Assembly insisted on their then

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present Opinion, and would make no further Provision for the support of that Garrison.

On which I writ the enclosed Letters to Governor Sharpe and Colonel Stanwix, which will Shew You the Steps I have taken, for the Security of Fort Cumberland, and the Provisional Orders I have given. As the dis=tance is so great, and the Communication so difficult between them and me, as hardly any of the Letters that go beyond Phila=delphia ever arrive, and when they do, it is from three to Six Weeks, just as the Post pleases to go.

To explain these Letters, it is necessary to observe that, by my Letter of April last, I Acquainted You that, at the Meeting with the Governors of the Southern Provinces, as I found the supplying of the whole of the Provincials to the North with Provisions, amounted to a very great Sum, I had Settled with the Southern Provinces, that they should, at the Expence of the several Provinces, maintain all the Provincial Troops raised by them, that I should destine for the defence of their own Province, but that I would Supply, with the Kings Provisions, such of their Troops

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as I should March out of their Province, on the general Service of the whole.

And as at the Meeting, it was un:=animously agreed, that Fort Cumberland in the Province of Maryland, I allotted the 500. Men they were to raise, for Garrisoning that Fort and Fort Frederick, and keeping up the communication between them; which is the reason I have directed, in my Letter to Colonel Stan:=wise, that if he cannot keep those Troops in that Garrison, on the footing they then stood, that he may so far break thro' that rule, as to furnish them with Provisions, if by that, he is able to persuade them, to con:=tinue to Garrison that Fort.

You will likewise observe that I have, so far as it lays in my Power, endeavored to have that Fort Garrison'd by Provincials, rather than by the Kings Troops; my reason for that is this; from all Accounts, it is not tenable if Attacked, both from it's Situation and from its Works, and I think it more calculated for Scout:=ing parties than regular Troops; and if it is taken by the Enemy, it will be less an Affair of Eclat, than if it were Garrisoned by the Kings Troops.

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The next thing that occurr'd, was the dispute of Quarters, that happened at Boston, (on the arrival of the recruiting parties from the Troops in Nova Scotia) where they absolutely refused them any Quarters, but those in the Castle on an Island in the Harbour, which could in no Shape Answer to recruiting parties, that must March all over the Country. Their taking it so high on this footing, drew the Attention of the whole Continent; even here, where they have had Troops these two Years, the People waited only to see the Issue of this Affair, in order to benefit by it, and turn out the Troops from their Quarters in the middle of Winter; which laid me under the necessity, of establishing the Point of Quarters there, or, I found, I should have had the whole Provinces in a ferment directly. this Affair took up a very long time in Negotiating, as from Experience I find, nothing is to be done by Letters in this Country, for they will Negotiate with You, by Letters, as long as You will, without ever coming to any determination; so that the only way of carrying

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-on business, is by being on the Spot, where, when You can bring them to Agree, You can bring them to Act, before They have time to Change their Minds.

This will likewise appear, from the long Negotiation I have had at Boston, in regard to the Rangers, I proposed to them to keep up in the Winter, and to dismiss the body of Provincial Troops as a Saving to them; which proposition I made to them in the beginning of September, and Governor Pownall had so little doubt of their coming into it, that when he came here on his way to the Jerseys, he assured me I should have no difficulties in that Affair; yet it hung on to the 20th of December, at which time, the Assembly gave a refusal to it; And the Men from that Province, that were in Esopus, are now gone home; the Account, of what those of them that are on the Mohawk River have done, is not arrived.

The want of those Men, in themselves, is not verry Consequential; but the Precedent, of one Province breaking off and not furnishing in conjunction with the others, may have very bad Effects, as the Universal plan in this

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Country is, to throw all Expences off themselves and lay it on the mother Country; therefore the danger is, others will follow the Example.

Enclosed, You have the whole Publick Correspondence on that Subject, that You may be Informed in how far, I have Judged right in this Affair; and in how far, I have Acted in conformity to the Kings Orders, communicated to the several Governors, by His Secretaries of State, down from the 26th: of October to this time.

Another difficulty has arisen, on the Point of the Quotas to be furnished by the different Provinces; in September, when Governor Pownall was here with me, he was of Opinion that, I should take no notice of the Quotas, as settled at the general Meeting at Al=bany, but to write to the Governors of the different Provinces, for such a num=ber of Men from their Province, as I thought necessary for the Service, proportioning that, as I judged they had Abilities to furnish. I told him I could not agree, to make any Alteration, in the only rule that had been universally followed and Acquiesced under, altho' the proceedings of that general Meeting,

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had not been Authenticated by the different provinces, after the return of their Commission=ers from it; yet, as they had all continued ever since, to furnish by that Quota, I thought it was too hazardous, to attempt an Alteration in it at this time; and there it ended.

But by the short Postscript, of Governor Pownalls Letter of January 30th, I see that, the Reports that had prevailed here for some days, is so far true, that there has been an Invitation to the four Governments of New England, to meet at Boston, to concert some plan, with which I have not been entrusted; the Report is, that the Governor of Rhode Island refused to come to the Meeting ex=cept the Commander in Chief was made Acquainted with it; and that the Governor of Connecticut proposed, that New York should be consulted; but by his Letter of February 2d, it seems he has been brought over, and has sent Commissioners; And from that Letter, it appears the purposes are, for Settling the respective Quotas, and taking measures for duly applying the combined Forces &a. _ I shall not say whose Plan it is, as my

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Information does not name any person with certainty; but three Provinces meeting at this Season of the Year, to make an Alteration in the Quotas of Six, that have been in use to furnish their Quotas, by a rule Ac=quiesced under so many Years; and where New York, one of those Six, has never been Inform'd; and the Jerseys does not appear to have been Invited; and Rhode Island appears, to have refused coming to it on the plan that has been proposed, Appears to me to be an Affair of great Consequence, which if not prevented, is likely to create disputes and Animosities among the Provinces, and will probably prevent, in a great Mea=sure, the Harmony that ought to be cul=tivated amongst them at this time, and deprive the Publick, in a great Measure, of that Aid they have a right to Expect from them at this time: And as to their applying the combined Force, I take that to be entirely in the King, who sends his Orders on that Subject, to whomever he thinks proper to Appoint to the Command of His Troops, to whom what Men the Provinces Raise are intended as an Aid, and not at all under

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the Command of the Governor, after they are raised, as to the Services they are to be Employed in.

In order, as far as I can, to prevent the bad Consequences I apprehend from this mea=sure, I have Invited the Governors of the four New England Colonies, New York and the Jerseys, to meet me at Hartford in Con=necticut, (as the most Centrical Place) on the 20th of this Month, in order to prevent, if I can, any Measure being taken by a part, that may Affect the whole; or, if measures have been taken, to reconcile the parties, and to, at least, Soder up matters so, that we may be able to go on with the Publick Service: I shall lose the less time by this, as the Boston Assembly has been adjourned to the 2d of March, before I was informed of it.

I shall now give you a short State of Your Indian Affairs. – Sir William Johnson assures me he has taken all the Pains in them he possibly can; but there has been a general defection thro' almost the whole of them, which appeared on this side, by the few Sir William Johnson was able to bring out last Year; and that, as soon as Fort William Henry was taken, they all returned home, in place of

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remaining to give Us their Assistance; And We have great reason to believe, that both the Onondaga and the Oneidas, had a number of their People with the French hdd destroy=ed the German Flatts; And the few Mo=hawks that were at home, were of no manner of Use to Lord Howe, when he went up the Mohawk River on that occasion; and indeed, my private Intelligence went so far as to say, the Six Nations would Act openly against Us the next Campaign.

Of late, Sir William Johnson has had an Invitation to meet them at Onon=daga, from whence he has great hopes of Success; and by His Intelligence, there seems to be some discontent very lately got among them, against the French; if that is so (for I have still doubts) I cannot yet inform You, whether it arrises, from the French not being able to supply them at present with Provisions and Goods; or, if they are begun to be Jealous of their Success; or, if the French have been wanton, from finding they have got such a body of Indians, and that Our Interest is Low among them, and from thence have treated them Ill, as they have done by

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the Twigtwees, if the Account is true, which
I received last Night from Sir William Johnson,
forwarded by Major General Abercromby, along
with the Message from the Quakers in Pen:
=silvania to the Indians; both which You
have Enclosed.

The Message from the Quakers to the
Indians, is of so extraordinary a Nature, that
I dispatched an Express immediately to Major
General Abercromby, to endeavor, by all means
to get possession of the Original, if it is
in writing, as from thence we may be able
to detect the Authors.

Sir William Johnson has all along com:
=plain'd greatly, of the mischief that was
done to the Kings Indian Affairs, by the
intermeddling of the Governments, particular:
=ly Pensilvania; and last Year, at his earnest
Sollicitation, I writ a Letter to that Government,
to endeavor to prevent their meddling any
further in them, a Copy of which I trans:
=mitted to the Kings Ministers, and desired
further directions, how to proceed in Indian
Affairs; but to this, I have had no Ans=
=wer in any Shape, which lays me under
great difficulties, when Sir William applies to

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me on such occasions.— He applied to me lately, on the intermeddling of some Society in Pensilvania with the Indians, and desired I would apply to Governor Denny, which I accordingly did, and he is in search after it, but had not got to the knowledge of it; but the Original, You see, has fallen into Sir William's own hands.

Finding, on Lord Howe's return, so strong a Confirmation of my Information, of the disposition of the Six Nations, I called together the General Officers and Colonels, that then remained at Albany, which were, Major General Abercromby, Mr. Webb, Colonel Forbes and Lord Howe, in order to consider, of the general disposition necessary to be made of the Troops, for the next Campaign; where, from the disposition the Indians seemed to be in, we agreed that, it was necessary to have next Summer, such a force in the back parts of this Country, as should not only keep those Indians in Awe, but, as should be able to Act Offensively against the Enemy; and that as the Enemy had got, in Conjunction with them, such a large body of Irregulars, it was absolutely necessary for Us to encrease Our

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light Troops, so as to be able to keep the Field, against the Enemys Canadians and Indians, who both Act in the same manner in the Field; and on this, advised a great addition to be made to the Rangers.

I have so far followed this Advice, as to Compleat the four Companies in the Kings Pay; and to order the raising of five new Companies, to be in the field by the 15th of March; and Jacob, the Indian who was in the Service in 1756, but was de-bauched from Us last Year, returns with his fifty Indians.

I have endeavored, all in my Power, to reduce the Exorbitant Expence of the Rangers, from the Plan they were first raised on by Mr. Shirley; but as they see We cannot, at present, be without them, all I have been able to save is the ten dollars a Man for Levy Money.

We have had many Plans, for Employing, some Companies of each of the Regiments in the Service, that way; but so many difficulties have been started, I was obliged to lay it aside till we take the field, and then shall be able I hope, to bring it

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about, without being so Expensive to the Pub:
=lick, as most people think it must be.

On this Occasion, Lieut. Colonel Gage made an Offer, of raising and Cloathing at his own Expence a Regiment of 500 Rang:
=ers, at the same Pay with the Troops, if His Majesty should be graciously pleased, to Appoint him Colonel of that Corp.— As by this Plan, I should both, make so great a Saving to the Publick, in reducing the Pay of the Rangers, from Seventeen pence half penny Sterling, to Sixpence, and their Cloathing; and at the same time, have a Corp. of Rangers that would be disciplined, and have Officers at their head on whom I can depend, which except a very few, is not the Case at present; And as by this Plan, if it Suc:
=ceeded I should be Independent of the Rangers, and from thence be able to reduce their Ex:
=pence; besides which, as I am obliged to in:
=crease the Rangers, it is necessary to have an Officer at their head, by whom I can communicate the Orders to them, and to be answerable for their being Executed.

On this view of things, I have so far Accepted of the plan, as to sett him about

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raising them; and have allowed him to name the Officers, from among the Troops, except two which he has taken from among the Provincials, on Account of raising the Men.— Those Officers whom he has picked out, as being the properest for this Serivce, remain on their present Pay in their own Corps, and have their Pay made up to them, from the Contingencies, for their nominal Rank in this new Corp.; and to have no Rank in the Army, by this new Commission, but to remain in the Army, in the rank they have, by the Commission they now Enjoy in the Regiment they now belong to, till His Majestys pleasure is known.

As I could not propose, that Lieut: Colonel Gage should raise his own Men, for carrying this plan into Execution, till His Majesty had signified His pleasure upon it, I have, for that reason, advanced the Money for the Cloathing and raising this Regiment, on Lieut: Colonel Gage's Security to repay it directly, in case His Majesty approves of the Plan.

I have likewise given him a draft of Ninety Six Men out of the Troops, for Ser=jeants and Corporals, and to make a beginning,

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for which he is to pay, the respective Regi=
=ments, on the same footing as the drafts
are paid for; and they are now going
on Successfully in recruiting, many People
having enlisted with them, that could not
be brought to Enlist with the regular Troops.

I Accepted of Lieut. Colonel Gage on
this Plan, both, as I think him a very
proper Person for that Service, and, as he
is the Eldest Lieut. Colonel, in the division
of the Troops that are with me.

As the Packet has brought no Orders
for the next Campaign, and as, whatever
other Ship may be coming with them, is
kept out by Northerly Winds, I find my=
=self under a necessity of making prepara=
=tions, which cannot be done without form=
=ing a Plan, which, in so far, will Answer
for whatever Orders shall arrive.

× I have propos'd three Plans, to be
carried into Execution this Year; the first
early, on Louisbourgh, before the Enemy can
be able to throw in Provisions or Succours,
or get Ships into the Harbour to Strengthen
the Place. ×

And as from the Intelligence I have

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had, from many People who have been taken, and brought in here, in their passage from thence to the West Indies; particularly Serjeant Hamilton of the Marines, who was saved out of the Tilbury, and was taken in a french Ship that was carrying him Prisoner to the Cape; who Assures me, that there are no Ships of War left there; that they at first intended, to have left the Tonnant and a Frigate, which had both suffered in the Storm, but they afterwards got them refitted, and he saw the whole Ships of War Sail for Europe: He further says, that they were in great want of Provisions, which had obliged them to send part of the Garrison to Quebeck; that there Sail'd from France, in September, Six large Transports with Provisions, four of which were taken in Europe, and the other two arrived at Louisburgh, two days before the Fleet Sailed; and that the Fleet took the whole of that, without allowing any of it to be Landed: He likewise says, that both the Garrison, which was 2200. when he left it, and the Inhabitants, were very Sickly, having got the black Fever and Flux, to a violent degree, among them; and that they had neither

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fresh Provisions, nor Medecines in their Hospitals

In this Situation, it appears, that the Siege of Louisburgh may be undertaken, by Major General Hopson, with the Troops now in Nova Scotia, Join'd by a body of New England Provincial Troops; and to Settle this Plan, I have writ to Major General Hopson and Lord Colvill, to send Colonel Lawrence, to concert the measures with me, after I have heard from him, the Opinion of the General and Commodore.

As the General has a thorough knowledge of that Country, and must have earlier Intelligence than I can have here, I have proposed to leave to him, to Settle what Troops he will take with him, and what he will leave for the Garrisons. He had when I sailed from thence, in August, Compleat, 5400. regular Troops, part of which he has discharged, as being unfitt for Ser=vice, particularly, of the Men drafted from Major General Shirley & Pepperels Regiment, for all which I made an Allowance, at the division of the drafts; but since that distribution was made, I have returns from him, by which I find he has discharged

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a great many more, out of that part of the Nova Scotia Regiments, which composed the Garrisons in the back Forts, since their re=turn to Halifax; but I hope to be able to replace them still, by recruiting; which, with the Provincials, are more than, the Engineer thinks, may be Sufficient, in the above Cir=cumstance, on this Service.

× The next Plan I am preparing for, is an Attack on Fort du Quesne, which I propose should be undertaken with two thousand of the regular Troops, and the Provincials of Virginia, Maryland and Pensilvania, who I hope will furnish 2000. Men.— I expect no difficulty in getting the Virginia Quota, but it is very uncertain, what numbers Mr. Sharpe will be able to get in his Government; Pen=silvania, I hope will Assist, notwithstanding their great heats at present. ×

And from the behavior of the Cherokees, who last Summer were in Virginia and Pen=silvania, and went home in good humor, promising to return next Summer in greater numbers.— I am now endeavoring to get five hundred, or a greater number, of them if possible, for which purpose, I have sent Mr.

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Bird of Virginia, (who has formerly treated with them very Successfully) to South Carolina, to Assist Mr. Atkin in this Negotiation, where, I am certain, Governor Lyttleton will give every Assistance in his Power.

× The third Plan I am preparing for, is to endeavor to push into Canada, by Lake Champlain, where I may expect the whole Force of that Country to deal with. In order to facilitate matters on that side, I did propose, to make an Attack on Tien=deroga and Crown-Point, this Winter on the Ice, and made the preparations for it; which I looked on as so Material, that I proposed to have gone on it myself; but the Frost sett in so late, and the Necessity of going to New England, from the measures carrying on there, have put that out of my Power; On which, I have detached Lord Howe on that Command. My preparations were for three thousand Regulars, besides Rangers, with a small Train, consist=ing, mostly, of Mortars and Howitzers; but as the Frost has at last sett in so very hard, that it will be imposible to erect Batteries, I have left it to Major General Abercromby and His Lordship, to diminish from that, to what

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they Judge, will answer the purpose of a Surprize, with a Force sufficient, to prevent bad Effects from any numbers they may send, if they should have Intelligence of the time of Our Mo=tions. — the Garrison at Tienderoga, including Work-Men, consists of three hundred and Eighty, and at Crown-Point One hundred and Fifty.

If His Lordship succeeds, it will forward matters greatly next Campaign, on this side; but great numbers of Batteaus will be wanted, both to Transport Provisions, Artillery and Men on those great Lakes, which I am now build=ing, and have Appointed Captain Bradstreet, to take the Charge of those for the Lake, and to provide the Batteau-Men for them.

He proposes to Collect those Men early, and with Eight hundred, (such as he can raise at his own Expence, and who will re=main in the Batteau Service after this is over,) to make an Attack on Cadaraqui, which he thinks, he can carry as soon as the Ice breaks up, or at least, to bring off or destroy, all the Vessels they now have on that Lake; and if he Succeeds, to be repaid his Expences, and be recommended to the Kings Ministers, for their Favor and such Reward, as they may

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think his Services deserve.— I am to furnish him with Boats and Provisions.— This Service will be so very material, if he Succeeds, and will not only have a great Effect among the Indians, but will oblige the Enemy to divide their Force, to secure themselves on that side, that I have agreed to the under=taking.— at present, I believe, there is not the least Suspition of the design, and I think, from his diligence and Expedition, no Man can be more likely to Succeed than he is, which will depend on his being there, before the Enemy can reinforce the Garrison.

As You have order'd the Battalion, under the Command of Lieut. Colonel Montgom=mery, to South Carolina where there are three Independent Companies Stationed, and as that Government is raising a Regiment of 700 Men for their own defence; and as I do not see, at present, any Offensive Measures, the Troops in that Country can be employed in this Summer, I have determined to withdraw the five Companies, of the 1st. Battalion of the Royal Americans, who I had sent there last Summer; as they seem, now, to be of no fur=ther Service there.

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For this purpose, I propose to Employ the Transports, still remaining there since they brought the Highlanders, several of which, have absolutely refused to be discharged or to Sail with:=out Convoy, as by their Charterparties, they are to return to the River with Convoy, and to remain in Pay, till they arrive there.

It has occurr'd to me, that an Attack might be Successfully made, on the Mobile, which would greatly distress the Enemy; but Ships of War and Transports would be necessary for that undertaking, which must be Ordered by You.– The time that seems most proper for that undertaking, in that Southern Climate, is in the Winter, after the Campaign is over in this more Northern Country: I throw this out only for Your Consideration, if it appears reasonable to You.

Enclosed I have the honor to trans:=mit to You, the Copy of a Letter I received from Mr. Vaudreuil, and of my Answer to him, to which I have, as yet, had no return.

Since the writing of that Letter, I have had the most Schocking Accounts, of the Murders the Northern Indians committed on the Prisoners, both on the Road, and even at Montreal

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after they arrived there, without the Governors interfering to prevent it.

I have here Stated the Situation of Affairs, as they now stand in this part of His Majestys Dominions.

With an Account, of the preparations I am making for the next Campaign, in order, to have the Affairs in as great readiness as possible, against the Orders arrive.– I could not make preparations without forming Plans; but those cannot interfere with the Plans you send, as they must arrive, long before these of mine can be put in Execution.

From the Situation of things to the North, You will see the absolute necessity, of forming an Act, for the Quartering of Troops in America; and I can see no other rule, that will answer the purpose, but the putting it on the same footing with the Quartering in Scotland; as the Men cannot be put under Cover otherwise; And I am the more convinced of this, from this and the other Provinces having of themselves, passed an Act, for Quartering those in private Houses, who could not be Lodged in Publick Houses; not:=withstanding of which Act, on the refusal at

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Boston, many waited only for to see their Success, in order to be very Clamorous here.

The Governments of Pensilvania & Maryland, are at present in a disposition, that makes business go very heavily on with them. _ I flatter my self that, I shall be able to carry thro' the business at Pensilvania this Year, as I stand well with many of them; but the Assembly of Maryland, is in such a disposition, that I have not the same dependence on them; but as they are now Met again, I hope Mr. Sharpe will be able to soften Matters so, as we may get on better, than their behavior, at their last Meeting, seemed to Promise.

Altho' Sir Thomas Robinsons Letters, of the 26th. of October 1754, and all those Since, where there was occasion to mention the Powers given to the Commander in Chief, as to the Command of all Troops, raised or to be raised, and what His Majesty Ex=pected from His Governors in this Country, on requisition being made to them, for Quar=tering of the Troops &ca; Yet the great re=sistance that has been made in the one, and the plan, that appears from Governor Fitch's

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Letter, to be carrying on just now, seems, to me, to make it necessary, to repeat and Settle, what Powers His Majesty sees necessary, to give His Commander in Chief in this Country, in order to carry on the War; And what He expects from His Governors in these parts.– I have not entered into all the particulars that may be necessary, as I shall be better able to do that, as soon as the Meeting at Hartford is over.

I received two Letters from Mr. Abercromby, by Your Orders, thro' Major Smith of Virginia; I shall endeavor to make the best Use I can of him; I have informed myself about him, of Mr. Bird, a Counsellor of Virginia, who has an Estate in Augusta County, near where he lives, and of a Captain of the Virginia Regiment, who were both here when he arrived: from them I learn, that the History he gives of himself, is in many points not true; And the Scheme he proposes, of carrying a thousand Men, Nine hundred thirty Six Miles, with fifteen days Provisions, seems Chimerical.

The drafts arrived here on the 12th. of December, and I have Acquainted the Secretary

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at War, with the division I have made of them.

I have yet no Account, of the Nine Companies of Highlanders; I am apprehensive, that the continued High Winds we have had, from the North West, have drove them to the West Indies.

It is necessary I should further men=tion to You, that I have no Accounts, of any Money being sent in Specie; and that, without a large Sum comes early, it will not be in the Contractors Agents Power, to Supply the money necessary, without lower=ing the Exchange under parr.

This arises from a Combination in the Monied Men of this Country, who, altho' there is a great Quantity of Specie in the Country, chose rather to let it lay dead, than not make all the advantages of it.

The Three Regiments in Nova Scotia, that draw their pay from me, often streigh=tens Us in Money, from the uncertainty, of being able to send it there at certain periods, which has introduced the Custom, for the Troops formerly there, of receiving Six Months Subsistence in advance, from whence

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I am obliged to follow the same Custom, which drains the deputy Pay Master General here, as great part of that Money, at the time it is paid out there, has not been Issued at the Treasury, from where it Interferes with the Pay of the Troops in this division.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest Regard,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant.

Loudoun

The Right Honble William Pitt Esqr.-

Endorsed New York Feb^ry^ 14th / 1758 / E^l^ of Loudoun / R 27th March

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Schedule of the Papers enclosed & referred to in Lord Loudoun's Letter to The Right Honble. William Pitt Esqr. Dated, New York February 14th 1758.-

Correspondence with Govr. Sharpe }

1. A Letter from Govr. Sharpe to Lord Loudoun ... Octr. 21st. 1757.-
2. Address of the Lower House of Assembly to Govr. Sharpe, Oct: 19th. — enclosed in the foregoing ....
3. A Letter from Lord Loudoun to Govr. Sharpe ... Novr. 3^d. —
4. D^o. ... from Govr. Sharpe to Lord Loudoun ... Nov: 15th. —
5. Govr. Sharpe's Speech to His Assembly, Oct: 21st. — encl^d. in y^e. foregoing ....
6. A Letter from Govr. Sharpe to Lord Loudoun ... Novr. 29th. —
7. Military Part of the Bill of the Assembly of Maryland, encl^d. in foregoing ....
8. A Letter from Govr. Sharpe to Lord Loudoun - received Decr. 30th. —
9. Address of the Lower House of the Assembly to Govr. Sharpe Decr. 15th. and
10. D^o. ... of the Upper House .... to D^o ... enclosed in the foregoing Letter .....
11. A Letter from Lord Loudoun to Govr. Sharpe ... Decr. 30th. —
12. D^o. from Govr. Sharpe to Lord Loudoun .... Jan: 22^d. 1758.-

D^o. with Col^o. Stanwix.

1. A Letter from L^d. Loudoun to Col^o. Stanwix .... Novr. 3^d. 1757.-
2. D^o. .... from Col^o. Stanwix to Lord Loudoun .. Decr. 22^d. —
3. D^o. .... from Capt. Dagworthey to Col^o. Stanwix, Decr. 11th. — encl^d. in the foregoing ....

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4. D^o. from Govr. Sharpe to D^o. enclosed in D^o. . . Decr. 17th. —

5. D^o. from L^d. Loudoun to D^o. . . . . Decr. 31st. —

6. Extract of a Letter from Col^o. Stanwix to L^d. Loudoun Jan: 16th. 1758.

D^o. with Govr. Pownall.

1. A Letter from Govr. Pownall to Lord Loudoun . . . Novr. 1st. 1757.

2. Votes of the Assembly of the Massachusets for repairing & building Barracks. Jan: 3^d. and Feb: 27th. 1755. and

3. Russell's & Dawes Receipts for Money rec^d. of Gen. Shirley for Barracks &c^a. May 3^d. & July 8th. 1756. enclosed in the foregoing Letter . . .

4. A Letter from Lord Loudoun to Govr. Pownall . . Novr. 3^d. 1757.

5. D^o. . . . . from Govr. Pownall to Lord Loudoun . . Novr. 4th. —

6. D^o. . . . . . from D^o. . . . . . . to D^o. . . . . . Novr. 7th. —

7. D^o. . . . . . from Lord Loudoun to Govr. Pownall . . Novr. 15th. —

8. D^o. . . . . . from Govr. Pownall to Lord Loudoun . . Novr. 28th. —

9. Govr. Pownall's Message to His Assembly, Novr. 26th. — encl^d. in foregoing . . . .

10. A Letter from Govr. Pownall to Lord Loudoun Decem^r. 1st. —

11. Extract of the Act of the Massachusets Governm^t. ordering Quarters for Recruiting Parties, enclosed in the foregoing . . . .

12. A Letter from Lord Loudoun to Govr. Pownall . . Decr. 6th. —

13. D^o. . . . . . from Govr. Pownall to Lord Loudoun. Decr. 16th. —

14. Message from His Assembly to Govr. Pownall . . Same Date

15. A Letter from Lord Loudoun to Govr. Pownall . . Decr. 26th. —

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16. D°. . . . from Gov.r Pownall to Lord Loudoun - Jan: 5th 1758

17. Advice of His Council to Gov.r Pownall, relating to the Pay of their Troops serving under Lord Loudoun, enclosed in foregoing . . . . . .

18. A Letter from Lord Loudoun to Gov.r Pownall . . Jan: 9th —

19. D°. . . . from Gov.r Pownall to Lord Loudoun . Same Date.

20. Address of His Assembly to Gov.r Pownall, Jan: 5th & 6th — encl.d in foregoing . . . .

21. A Letter from Lord Loudoun to Gov.r Pownall . Jan: 18th —

22. D°. . . . from Gov.r Pownall to Lord Loudoun . Jan: 19th —

23. D°. . . . from D°. . . . . to D°. . . . . . Jan: 28th —

24. D°. . . . from D°. . . . . to D°. . . . . . Jan: 30th —

25. Vote of the Council of the Massachusetts . Jan: 30th — enclosed in the foregoing Letter . . . .

26. A Letter from L.d Loudoun to Gov.r Pownall . . Feb: 6th 1758.

Sundries . . {
A Letter from Gov.r Fitch to Lord Loudoun . Feb: 2d —
Indian Intelligence from S.r W.m Johnson . . Jan: 29th —
A Letter from the M. de Vaudreuil to Lord Loudoun. Oct: 22d 1757. —
Parole of Col.o Scheyler and M.r Martin enclosed in foregoing . . . .
A Letter from Lord Loudoun to the M. de Vaudreuil, Nov.r 8th —
}

Endorsed Schedule of Papers enclosed & | refer'd to, in Lord Loudoun's Letter | to The R.t Hon: . . William Pitt, Esq.r | Dated, New York, Feb: 14th 1758. | in the E.l of Loudoun's of | the 14th Feb.ry 1758.

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Albany, Novr. 3d. 1757.—

Sir,

On the 27th of October I had the Pleasure of receiving Yours of the 17th. But Capt. Ingerstall has not yet appear'd, nor any certain Account of him; tis reported he fell sick on the Road.

As Your Assembly meets so very late, there is no sending home the Whole of the Massachusets Troops, and waiting till they can pass their Act, and new raise Rangers in Consequence of it, and at this Season of the Year, send them back to the Frontiers, the Place where they are wanted.—

Besides, such a Measure, wou'd be attended with extream bad Consequences for shou'd the other Provinces find that they are maintaining a certain Proportion of Men all this Time, for the Publick Service, and that I have sent Home the Whole of the provincial Troops of Your Government, they wou'd immediately cry out on the partiality of my Proceedings, and wou'd at once cutt off all Confidence & Trust between them & me, which wou'd be hurtful and distressful to the King's Service, and the protection of the Country, & wou'd at the same Time entirely break thro' my future Plans.— Therefore

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I see Nothing left in this Situation of Things, but that I shou'd retain a Number of Your Provincials, agreable to the Number of Rangers, I have asked from Your Province, & dismiss the Remainder of Your Troops, and that I shall do as much with their Good Will as I possibly can — By this Means the Number will be furnished, and no Room left for any Jealousies between me and the other Provinces — And as the Men are en=listed to serve, till March next, there is no Injustice done to any Man, as nothing is asked of any Man, but what he is engaged for, and by this Means the Expence of New Levying, will be saved to the province, and still if any of those Men that Remain with this Detatchment are either improper for that Service, or if there are among them Men You wou'd choose to send home, all that can easily be accommodated between You and me, when You send Men to relieve them —

As to the Officers, I shou'd imagine, there wou'd be enough found among them, fit for that Service, that wou'd be glad to be continued in Pay; But if it shou'd turn out otherwise, or You shou'd chuse, to employ others, they can be changed, when Your Act is past —

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As to giving those Officers new Commissions, that depends on You, but as they are raised to serve till March, I think tis a Matter of Indifference. I take it their Commissions are partly signed by Lt. Gov. Phips, & partly by the Council after his Death.

This seems to me a better Way of managing this Affair than new raising a Corps, before the Assembly has been informed of it; altho' I think You have that Power, if the Situation of Affairs required it. For by this I only retain a Part of the Troops, which are put into My Hands till March next, and by dismissing the others, make a considerable Saving to the provinces, and in those I retain I do Your Province no Injustice, as I retain no more than what I have asked from them for their Share in Conjunctions with the other Provinces, and which all the others have agreed to, except New Hampshire, whose answer is not Yet arrived, but I expect it on Saturday.

I am &ca. -

Governor Pownall. -

Endorsed Copy. / A Letter from the Earl of Loudoun / to Govr. Pownall - / Albany Novr. 3d. 1757. / 4. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby. 14: 1758 / 22

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Boston Novr. 4th 1757.—

My Lord,

On Tuesday last arrived here from Hali=fax, Capt Cox, Ensigns West and Nicholson of the 47th. Regiment, & Lieutenants Mackennen, Mon=crief and Cook of the Royal, sent out on the Recruiting Service. They applied to me for my Directions how they shou'd dispose of their Men, then on board the Vessel they came in. I sent for the Select Men, as the Chief Magistrates of the Police of the Town, explain'd to them the Nature and Necessity of these Soldiers having Quarters, where their Service lay. I found by their Reply, which indeed was proper, that I had mistaken in applying to them, for, as Select Men, they have no executive Power, but only such of them as are Justices of the Peace. I then recommended it to those of them, who were Justices, to consider whether in point of prudence and good Policy it wou'd not be right to find suitable and proper Quar=ters for the Parties.— They promised to do every Thing in their Power, and showed a very ready Disposition to accommodate Matters, and by my Directions went to settle it with the Officers. I heard no more that Night, so supposed

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all to be well. Next Morning, Novr. 2d Capt. Cox & Lieut. Cook waited on me, & acquainted me that their Men lay aboard the Sloop the last Night, still wanting Quarters, for that the Justices thought they had no power by Law to proceed any fur=ther in quartering Men, than delivering to the Officers a List of the Publick licenced Houses, where Soldiers had lodged in the like Cases before this Time; further adding that their under Officer shou'd attend them to shew them these Houses. I gave immediate Orders to the Commissary & Barrack Master to find Quarters in the Barracks, and to deliver the Men Fire Wood and all Barrack Uten=sils usually allow'd and provided for by this Government, which, as the Officers do not pro=pose to beat up till they receive Your Lordship's Orders, will very well suit their present Circumstances. I am sensible this will by no Means do, when they begin to beat up. I then sent for the Speaker, and Representatives of the Town, and endeavour'd to explain to them the Nature and Necessity of the Soldiers being quarter'd. Their Answer was, that at my Recommendation, upon Your Lordship's Application for Quarters, they had provided Barracks, and supplied them with all necessaries & were willing and disposed to do every Thing in their Power,

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that the Service cou'd legally require. That as it is an essential Right of the Subject, that no one cou'd be quarter'd upon, unless by Law, and as there was no Law directing such, or indemnify=ing those who shou'd attempt to do it, no Magis=trate, they thought, wou'd venture to do it, and that if he did, those People upon whom he shou'd quarter any Soldier, wou'd have a Right to sue him for Damages and Expence, and wou'd re=cover it against him. I then told them, that if the Act for the better payment of the Army and their Quarters did not extend to America; yet I thought that in the 25th Section of the Militia Act of this province, a Power of quartering upon Publick licenced Houses, was declared; that there must be a Power of Quartering in Existence here, where a Clause was made to restrain it, and that the Power still remained, in those Cases where it was not restrained, but specially excepted. They told me that this Clause respect=ed only the Militia & Forces raised in this province. I this Day mentioned the Affair to my Council, and received the same Explanations. The Officers have been in Form to the Justices of the Town to ask for Billets for the Men. I gave them a List of the Justices, and a Copy

of the 25th Section of the Law. I enclose a Copy of the same to Your Lordship. I have not since heard from them. They acquaint me, that their Men being Serjeants and Corporals, and with additional four Pence for Provisions, think they can very well provide for themselves in Town, and chuse it with their Officers Leave. Their Officers have given them Leave, and I understand they have all provided themselves. This Day, Novr. 3d. arrived here in a Schooner from Halifax, Capt. Mackay, Lieut. Cotnam and Ensign Archbold of the 40th Regt. Capt. Cosnam, Lieut. Phillips and Ensign Wallis of the 45th Regt. Capt. Mackay came up to me from the Schooner. I acquainted him how the Affair of quartering stood at present, and that I thought as they did not propose to beat up till they received Your Lordship's Orders, their Men had better be in the Barracks, and I accordingly gave the same Orders to the Commissary and Barrack Master respecting the 40th and 45th Regts. as I had before respecting the Royal & 47th. Regts.– So here the Matter rests till Your Lordship's further Pleasures, and Directions be known and signified. When Your Lordship shall signify such to Your Officers, they shall, as they have hitherto done, receive from me every Aid and Assistance, Advice

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and Furtherance in my Power. I must, My Lord, upon the Whole observe, in Justice to the people of the province, that however they may be mis:=taken in this Matter, of thinking they have no Right or power by Law to quarter Soldiers on the Subject, that they have at Heart His Majesty's Service in General, are zealous in aiding the Measures and the more so, from their Confidence in, and their high Esteem of Your Lordship's Virtue & Character.

The last mentioned Officers and their parties came in a Schooner, that General Hopson has sent here with some of the people belong:=ing to mine and the Neighbouring Governments, who were taken away at Fort William Henry, and returned to Halifax from Quebec in a Flagg of Truce; "Last Week (says General Hop:"=son) arrived here two Flaggs of Truce from "Quebec, having on board upwards of 250, of "the Men taken at Fort William Henry, Part "of which belonging to the Massachusets & neigh:"=bouring Provinces, I have now sent to Boston "in the Schooner Success, Domet Master, but can:"not exactly ascertain the Number; must there:"=fore refer Your Excellency to the provincial Of:"=ficer, who comes with them. I have been obliged

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"to land upwards of 20 of them, that are down "with the Small pox, which they brought with "them from Canada, and to establish an Hos=pital for the Reception and Care of them. As "they had no Bedding with them, I have been "obliged to make use of the Military Bedding as "far as I coud, none being to be had here, "if I wou'd give a Thousand Pound for it. "Hope the Well ones, who are aboard, will re=main so". I did immediately upon their Ar=rival send down the Muster Master, Mr. Liddel, to muster them before they Came ashore. The Vessel indeed by a Standing Order, according to Law, was stopped below the Castle, having the Small pox aboard.

I do hear that in one of these Flaggs of Truce, came a Man, as a Linguist, one Chatin, who had formerly left Halifax, that after Staying at Halifax a few Days he has disappear'd. They have found that he had been in several Houses at Halifax. The people are in Confinement. One has own'd that he was at Halifax when Your Lordship was there. Tis well if he is not come in some Vessel to the Continent, and possibly may come to the Army. I will give Directions, that if any Stranger, who gives

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any Reason of Suspicion shou'd pass thro' Spring=field, to lay him by the Heels.

I am preparing to send home Mr. L'Archer. I propose to direct his Chest to be searched for papers before he getts clear, but that not till the very Day he goes aboard; and this my Intent I have not mentioned to a Single Soul.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordships

most true, and

faithfull Servant

T. Pownall.

His Excellency The Earl of Loudoun-

Copy

Endorsed Copy-/ A Letter from Govr. Pownall to/ Lord Loudoun.-/ Boston. Novr. 4th 1757-/ 5./ in the E. of Loudoun's of Feb. 14: 1758/23.

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Boston, November 7th. 1757_

My Lord_

Enclosed Your Lordship receives Lists of the People sent by General Hopson to me. They are those taken at Fort William Henry, and sent by Monsr. Vaudreuil to Halifax. They are all naked. Those of my own Government, I have order'd to be cloathed, as also those of the 35th Regiment, and shou'd be glad to receive Your Lordship's Directions where to send them and how, as also that they may be put under Stop=pages for the Cloaths. I do not yet know what the Cost is, but it can't be much.

I enclose to Your Lordship also, the Receipts of the Artificers made Prisoners at Oswego, for the Money I advanced them, for Subsistence

£17. 19._ to carry them to their Respective homes.

Besides which I advanced, for supporting

4. 2._ them whilst here, four Pounds two Shil=

£22. 1._ =lings, for which I will hope to receive Your Lordships Warrant.

I send this Express with Your Lordship's Letters, That were deliver'd to me this Morning by Mr. George Harrison, just arrived here from England._

Of the last recruiting Party under Capt. Cosnam

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L^t. Phillips of the 45th Reg^t. is by a Law of this Province (directing the Means of Preventing the Small pox being brought to this Town from places infected) detained on the Pest Island, be=low, by Order of the Select Men, as he came in a Vessel that had the Small pox aboard, and has not had it. From an Apprehension of mine that His Majesty's Officers order'd hither upon Duty cou'd not be detained and prevented from coming, I endorsed the Order of the Select Men as follows.—

M^r. Hartley,

It is my Orders that L^t. Philips of the 45th. Reg^t. now upon the King's Service be not detained any longer, but permitted to come to Town, if he has not the Small pox upon him.

This Order M^r. Hartley, the Health Officer did not think he cou'd obey. The Select Men have mett since. M^r. Philips is still detained; and if they be right in their point of Law, I have done more than I had a Right to do, but yet (not thinking it against Law) what I thought it my Duty to do.

I am / My Lord / Your Lordship's
most faithful / and obed^t. Servant
T. Pownall

To His Excell^cy the R^t. Honble. The Earl of Loudoun, &ca, &ca, &ca.—

Copy

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Albany, Novem^r. 15th. 1757.—

Sir,

On the 10th on the Road from Fort Edward, I had the Favour of Your Letter of Novem^r. 1st. and on the 12th. I received Your Letters of the 4th. and 7th. of this Instant, and have been prevented from Answering them till now by an Alarm in the Mohawk Country of some Indians and Canadians attacking the upper Settlements there on the North Side the River above Her:=kermer's; There Number uncertain they were called from 300. to 1100. but in General they are Reckon'd 800.— I immediately sent Lord Howe to command the Troops on the River, and order'd more up there after him, and I have just now an Account from him at Conegehorie dated last Night, that they had attacked that Settlement where Petry lived on the North Side above Herkermers, where they had destroy'd the Habitations and taken some Prisoners, whom they sent off on the 12th. and Ten Parties had moved off on the Evening of the 13th.—

I come now to answer that very Material Part of Your Letter relating to the new Dispute the People of Boston have raised in Relation

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to Quartering the King's Troops, by refusing to give any Quarters even to the recruiting Parties sent to raise Troops for their Defence.–

I was in Hopes to have heard of no Objection being raised on this Article after the Conversation I had last Winter with a Com=mittee of the Assembly, sent to me on this Subject whilst I was at Boston, to whom I explain'd fully the Nature of Quartering, both in Time of Peace and during a War sub=sisting in the Country. I shew'd them likewise the Nature of Quartering in Allied Princes Do=minions, and in those of Neutral Princes; and they and all those Gentlemen who were with me seemed convinced; at least they had no one Argument left to produce against Quarters, & I thought I shou'd have never heard of an Objection.–

The Arguments they brought against Quar=tering were first, that the Act for Quartering did not extend to America, which affirm'd it did, and that the Act for Quartering the King's Troops did extend to every Part of His Majesty's Dominions where the Necessities of His People shou'd oblige him to send those Troops, either for the Defence of His Dominions, or the Protection

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of His Subjects; That the Troops now in this Country were sent on Application from hence for their Protection in their Utmost Need, and that if they had the Power of Refusing them Quarters, that surely they cou'd not propose to make the Mother Country pay that Additional Expence of Quarters for the Troops sent for their Defence at the sole Expence of the Mother Country, and at that Extravagant Rate, which has been the Case of all Lodgings that have been paid for on this Continent, dearer than such Lodg=ings wou'd cost in the Capital Street of London; That I cou'd not conceive they cou'd mean, that the Troops sent over were at the End of every Campaign to perish in the Snow in the Streets during the Winter; Charity will not permit me to believe, that they can either mean that the Mother Country shou'd pay for the Quar=tering the Troops here, that are sent for their Protection who have Quarters in Great Britain with=out payment; And if they were that wou'd not answer; for if the King has no right to Quarters, His Servants hiring Lodgings must de=pend on the Pleasure of every Cotager whether he will let his Lodgings or not, let the Necessity be ever so great.

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They surely do not see the Consequences that must attend their Succeeding in this Plan; it must at once cut off the Possibility of moving Troops thro' the Country when they cannot encamp either to carry on offensive Measures against the Enemy, or to protect or relieve His Majesty's Subjects, where=ever they may be attacked by the Enemy. Even if the Town of Boston were attacked; it wou'd not, by their Rule, be in my Power, to march Troops to it's Relief.

As to what they have said of preparing Barracks at my Desire for the Troops; I never have applied to any one Town or Province in America to build Barracks, from a very Substantial Reason, which it is not necessary for me to mention at present. What happen'd between me and the People at Boston was this; When I arrived there the Remains of M. G. Shirley's & M. G. Sr. William Pepperell's Regiments were quarter'd in the Barracks at Castle William and Application was made to me for Paying the Firing they had before my Arrival, and for me to supply them for the Time to come _ To which I answer'd that my Demand was for Quarters at Boston; they chose to have the Troops in the Barracks, in Order to Ease their Houses; that I liked Barracks better than

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Quarters; but then the Men must be supplied by them: with proper Bedding, Firing and Utensils to dress their Victuals, that I wou'd put the Crown to no Expence for those Things, and if they did not chuse to do it, I wou'd move the Troops directly into Town where they had a Right to all those Things, without put=ting the Mother Country to any Expence.

That was my Opinion then, and I abide by it now; and to show those Gentlemen, that it is not I alone that think so, when the Expe=dition intended against Canada, under Lieut. Gen. St. Clair, it was once the Intention of the Govern=ment to have sent out the whole Troops intend=ed for that Service in the Fall, and to have quarter'd them in Boston for the Winter; And further, in the Disputes that have been made in other Provinces about Quartering, altho' none have ever taken it on so wrong a Footing as this, I have the Approbation of the King's Ministers in every step I have taken in setting them right in this Point; and if Your Repre=sentations to them on this Letter, has not the Effect of settling it directly, I will take the same Measures that has settled it in other Provinces and which have been approved of at Home.

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And as this Attempt of theirs is big with infinite Mischiefs, and can tend to no Point but to throw the Whole Continent into Confusion at a Time when there is a Forreign Enemy in it, and to disable the Mother Country from reaping the Benefit, and themselves from enjoying the Protection of that immense Expence she is at for those Good Ends.

And as the Province of the Massachusetts Bay can have no exclusive Title in this Case from the Kings other Provinces, the Consequence of giv:=ing Way to it must be the spreading the Con:=tagion over the Whole; nor dare I, as a faith:=full Servant Concur in depriving my King and Country of the Right of Quartering their Troops & recruiting their Armies in the populous province of the Massachusets Bay, at a Time when the Enemy are so strong on the Continent, and such Numbers of Recruits are wanted to Compleat the Troops.–

As to the Provincial Law that has been mentioned, it can neither deprive the King and the Mother Country of the Right they have in this in Time of Peace, or govern the Rules and Customs of War, which are established and justi:=fied by the Necessities of it.

I have taken every Measure with the

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greatest Patience and Gentleness last Winter to convince Your People how wrong this Notion of theirs was, and of the Evil Consequences must attend the Servants of the Publick giving Way to it. I confuted their Arguments even those brought from Pamphlets, published in King Charles the First's Reign, which were insisted on by some & did flatter myself that I had convinced their Reason for they had no Argument left to support their Claim and did agree.-

As those Gentle Measures have had no Effect and they are returned to their first mis=taken Plan, after the unjustness of their Claim and the ruinous Consequences to the Whole, were it to take Place, has been shewn to them in the fullest Manner.

Their not complying with their Duty, will lay me under the disagreable Necessity of taking Measures to prevent the Whole Continent from being thrown into Confusion.

And as Nothing more is Wanted to set Things Right but the Magistrate or Justice doing their Duty, for no Act of the Assembly is neces=sary or wanted for it, I have order'd my Mes=senger to wait but forty Eight Hours in Boston, and if on His Return I find things not settled,

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I will instantly order into Boston, the Three Bat:
=talions from Long Island, New York & Connecticut,
and if more are wanted I have two in the
Jerseys at Hand, besides those in Pensylvania.-

I am obliged by Publick Business to take
another Rout myself, I have no more Time left
to settle this so Material Affair, for the very Be:
=ing of this Country, and must take the neces:
=sary Steps before my Departure, in Case they
are not done by themselves.-

As to the Confinement of Lieut. Phillips of
the 45th Regiment in the pest House by the
Select Men, it was illegal in the First Place, for
even the province Law, as I am inform'd, relates
only to the Town of Boston; so that if they
had the power of stopping the Kings Officers
from executing their Duty, (which I promise them
I shall Dispute and prevent,) they had no Pre:
=tence for preventing his Landing any where Else;
But this Matter, I shall take proper Measures to
set Right.-

As to what You mention of the great Zeal
the People of Your Province have for the Publick
Service, nobody can have a greater Regard for
them, than I always had and have, But if they
continue to act in this Way, their Actions will over

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Ballance all the Words that You, and they, and I can use in their Behalf, for it must be Actions and not Words that will convince the Government now.

As Your Assembly have not Yet met to make a Provision for the Rangers I had asked from them to remain with me all the Winter, and had offer'd on their agreeing to them, to dis=miss the Remainder of the Troops raised by them for the Publick Service; and as I am dismissing the Troops belonging to the other Provinces who have furnished me with Rangers on my Plan, which was Originally calculated to make as great a Saving to the Provinces as I could, consistant with the Service, I have, in Order to convince the People of Your Province of the Care and Attention I always have to every Thing that I can contribute to their Ease or to lessening their Expence, without raising a Jealousy in other Provinces of a Partiality to any Particular one, I have only retain'd of Your Provincial Troops 360. Men, Officers included whom I have order'd to be form'd into four Com=panies, on the same Plan You had formed them. They are at present short of Officers, and several of the Men ought to be changed; all which I have no Doubt You will regulate when You turn them into Rangers.

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You will observe, that altho' I have not yet got the Rangers according to the Plan I have given in to every Province; nevertheless I have gone as far as I cou'd in easing Your Province, by dis=missing all the Provincials belonging to them, keep=ing only a Proportional Number of Provincials in order to give You Time to settle the Affair with Your People, and at the same Time to prevent any Jealousies among the other Provinces a Thing that wou'd have very dangerous Con=sequences at Present.-

I am, &ca.-

His Excellency Govr. Pownall.-

Endorsed Copy, / A Letter from L. Loudoun to / Govr. Pownall.- / Albany, Novr. 15th 1757. / 7 / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby 14: 1758 / 25

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Boston, 28th November 1757 –
9 o'Clock at Night –

My Lord,

On Friday Night, 9 o'Clock, Novr. 25th I received the Honour of Your Lordship's Letter, dated Albany, 17th –

The Magistrates having refused to quar=ter and billet the Soldiers as I acquainted Your Lordship in my last, immediately on Saturday Morning, I sent a Message to the two Houses now sitting, (Copy of which I enclose to Your Lordship) and directed the Secretary to lay Your Publick Letter before them, not doubting by this Means to bring this troublesome Affair into such a State as will be agreable to Your Lordship.

The two Houses appointed a Committee, the Committee agreed that Night to prepare a Bill, in which they declare their Willingness to make any Provision for His Majesty's Troops that shou'd be necessary, and that as the provision they had already made, upon Your Lordship's late Application was insufficient for the Recruiting Parties, now requiring Quarters, – That it be therefore enacted, that whenever any Recruiting Parties shall be sent into this province, the Ma=gistrates be impower'd to provide their Quarters

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agreable to the Terms of the Act of Parliament, & at the Same Rates.–

The Committee, to make the utmost Dispatch, sat on Sunday, and agreed to report the Bill; and it was accordingly reported this Morning, and the House are now sitting upon it, and have this Evening sent me a Message by a Committee, that they have my Message now under Consideration, and will give it all possible Dispatch, and desire I would acquaint Your Lordship therewith, In Hopes that Your Lordship may be induced to think they are spending no more Time on this Affair, than what is necessary to compleat it; I must therefore intercede with Your Lordship to suspend the Prosecution of those Measures You had de=termined on, in Case a Compliance with Your Lordship's Demands had been refused; the Contrary to which, tomorrow or next Day, I hope to be able to acquaint Your Lordship with.

I have the Honour to be, / My Lord
Your Lordship's
most obedient, humble,
& most faithful Servant
T. Pownall.

To His Excellency, The Rt. Honble The Earl of Loudoun, &ca, &ca, &ca.–

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Gentlemen of the Council and House of Representatives -

About three Weeks ago several of the Officers of His Majesty's Troops arrived at Boston from Nova Scotia, in order to recruit the Regiments to which they belong, and made their Applica=tion to me to provide them Quarters. I was very sensible that the Service which these Gentlemen were order'd upon cou'd not be carried on if they were to be lodged in the Barracks which You had provided at Castle William, and therefore I directed them to make their Applica=tion to the Magistrates in the Town of Boston to quarter and billet them in that Town. I explained to those Magistrates the Nature and represented the Necessity of furnishing Quarters. Notwithstanding which they declined comply=ing with this Application: in Consequence whereof His Excellency The Earl of Loudoun has been pleased to send me a Letter, which I received last Night by Express, and which I shall direct the Secretary to lay before You.

You will perceive, Gentlemen, that His Lordship insists upon the Right of the Demand. His Majesty's Service, the protection and Defence of His Colonies very much depend upon a Compliance with it: It is an Affair of such

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Importance that I must recommend it to Your most serious and immediate Attention.

T. Pownall -

Novr. 26th 1757. -

Copy

Endorsed Copy. / His Excellency Govr. Pownall's / Message to the Council & House of / Representatives of the Massachusetts / Bay - / Novr. 26th 1757. - / Enclosed in Govr. Pownall's Letter of Novr. / 28th. 1757. / 9. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby. 14: 1758. / 27.

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Boston, December 1st 1757.—
Council Chamber.—

My Lord,

I have the Honour to acquaint Your Lordship, that the Government of this province have this Day in Compliance with Your Lordship's Demand, pass'd the enclosed Act entitled an Act making Provision for the Quartering &ca.

The two Houses went into the Consideration of it immediately upon my Message sent to them the Morning after I received Your Lordship's Letter, and I hope Your Lordship will esteem the Dispatch they have made in this Matter as arising from their invariable Desire in all Readiness to comply with every Application to them for the Publick Service.

The Letter which I have the Honour to forward to Your Lordship, I received enclosed in a Letter from Lord Colville.—

I am, My Lord,
With the highest Esteem & Respect,
Your Lordship's
most obedient, faithful & humble Servant
T. Pownall.—

His Excellency, The Earl of Loudoun &ca.—

Copy

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Anno Regni Regis Georgii Secundi Tricessimo Primo-

An Act making Provision for the Quartering, and Billeting Recruiting Officers & Recruits in His Majesty's Regular Forces, employ'd for the Protection and Defence of His Majesty's Dominions in North America

Whereas the provision made by this Government for quartering His Majesty's Troops in Barracks at Castle William is found inconvenient for the Purposes of such Recruiting Parties as are or may be employ'd in His Majesty's Service within this province,

Be it therefore enacted, by the Governor, Council, & House of Representatives, That when and so often as, during the Continuance of this Act, Application shall be made of any Recruiting Officer or Officers in any of the Troops that are or may be employ'd in His Majesty's Ser=vice, for the protection and Defence of His Majesty's Colonies upon the Continent of North America, to any of the Select Men of any Town or District within this Province, or in the Default or Absence from the respective Towns or Districts, of any Select Men, to any one Justice of the Peace for the County inhabiting in or near such Town or District, such Select

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Men, and such Justice are hereby required to quarter & billet such Recruiting Officers and such Recruits in His Majesty's Service, in any of the Publick Houses within such Town or district licenced for the Selling within Doors, Wine, Rum, or other strong Liquors by Retail. And the Officers and Soldiers so quarter'd and billeted as aforesaid shall be received and fur:=nished with Diet and Small Beer or Cyder by the Occupiers of such licenced Houses in which they may be quarter'd and billeted, Payment and Allowance to be made therefor by such Recruiting Officers as shall demand Quarters, at such Rates and within such Time as is established and regulated by Act of Parliament for quartering and Billeting Officers and Soldiers in England, Wales, and the Town of Berwick upon Tweed; Vizt. for one Commission Officer of Foot, under the Degree of a Captain for his Diet and Small Beer pr. Diem one Shilling Sterling, and if such Officer shall have a Horse or Horses for each such Horse or Horses for their Hay and Straw per Diem Six pence Sterling. for one Foot Soldier of the Recruiting Party or Recruits Diet and Small Beer per Diem four Pence Sterling.—

Provided also, and be it further enacted,

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That in Case any Person shall find himself ag:
=grieved in that any Select Men has quarter'd or billeted in His House a greater Number of Soldiers than he ought to bear in Proportion to His Neighbours, and shall Complain thereof to one or more Justice or Justices for the County, where such Soldiers are quarter'd, or in Case such Soldiers shall have been quarter'd by a Justice of the peace, then on Complaint made to two or more Justices of the Peace for the County, such Justices respectively shall have and have hereby Power to relieve such person by ordering such and so many of the Soldiers to be re:
=moved or quarter'd upon such other person or Persons as they shall see Cause, and such other person or Persons so licenced shall be obliged to receive such Soldiers accordingly.—

And be it further enacted, That if any Select Man or Justice of the Peace shall neglect or refuse, for the Space of two Hours, to quarter or billet such Officers or Soldiers, when thereunto required in such Manner as is by this Act directed, provided sufficient Notice be given before the Arrival of any Recruiting Parties, or shall receive, demand, Contract or agree, for any Sum or Sums of Money, or any Reward,

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whatsoever for or on Account of excusing or in Order to excuse any Person or Persons whatso=ever from quartering or receiving into his, her, or their House or Houses, any such Officer or Soldier, or in Case any Occupier of any Pub=lick licenced House liable by this Act to have any Officer or Soldier quarter'd and billeted upon him or her, shall refuse to receive and victual any such Officer or Soldier so quarter'd and bil=leted on him or her as aforesaid, according to the Directions of this Act, and shall be thereof Convicted before two Justices of the Peace for the County where such Offence shall be committed, (one of which Justices to be of the Quorum) either by his or her own Confession, or by the Oath of one or more credible Witness or Witnesses every Person so offending shall forfeit to His Majesty for every such Offence, the Sum of Five pounds Sterling, or any Sum of Money not exceeding Five Pounds Sterling, nor less than forty Shillings Ster=ling) as the said Justices before whom the Matter shall be heard shall in their Discretion think fit) to be levied by distress and Sale of the Goods of the person offending, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of The Justices before whom such Offender shall be convicted, to be directed to the

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Sheriff of the County, his Deputies, or any Con=
=stable of the Town, where the Offender shall dwell, such Fine or Forfeiture to be paid into the province Treasury, to be applyed to the publick Charges of this Government.

This Act to continue and be in Force, from the first Day of December this present Year, unto the first Day of December in the Year of our Lord One Thousand, Seven Hundred and fifty Eight, and no longer.–

a true Copy examined

Pr. A. Oliver, Secry.–

Copy

Endorsed Copy. | Extract of the Act of the Massachusets | Government, ordering Quarters for | Recruiting Parties.–| Enclosed in Govr. Pownall's Letter of | Decr. 1st 1757.–| 11. | in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby. 14: 1758. | 29.

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New York, December 6th. 1757.

Sir,

Yesterday Morning I was favour'd with Yours of Novr. 28. which had come by Albany. From it I was in Hopes, that on the Fair State I had made of the Right the King and the Mother Country had to Quarters for their Troops sent at the Sole Expence of the Mother Coun=try for the Defence of His Majesty's Dominions, and the Protection of the Lives and Properties of His Subjects in North America, that every Thing would have gone as it has and ought in the other Provinces.—

But in the Evening, I had the Favour of Yours of Decemr. 1st with a Copy of the Act passed by the Legislature of the Massachusets, by which they have laid me under the disagre=able, but absolute Necessity of settling this Point at once, as the Consequence of my Ac=quiescing under it, would at once throw the whole Continent into Confusion from So. Carolina to Boston and turn three Fourths of the Troops at once into the Streets to perish at this Sea=son of the Year.

I observed to You in my Letter from Albany, that the Assembly had no Concern in

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the King's Right to Quarters for His Troops, as in Time of Peace it is settled and regulated by an Act of the British Parliament, which no Act of theirs can infringe or diminish. I likewise observed that in Time of War the Troops must be posted in such Numbers as the Necessitys of that War make requisite, and that the Rules laid down for the Time of Peace give Place to the Rules and the Customs and Necessitys of War, as practised in the Mother Country & as practised in the Countrys of not only allied, but even of Neutral Princes all over the Globe—

Surely the Gentlemen have not consider'd this Act before they passed it; for by it, if it cou'd have any Force, they have barred the King from Marching his Troops thro' His own Dominions to oppose the most cruel of all Enemies, now actually in His Country, and threatening further Invasions every Day.

I shall not go on to make any further Observation on the Act, as I cannot help seeing from this Step of the Assemblys, after the last Letter I writ from Albany, & from finding that after all the prudent Measures You have taken to prevent them from Infringing the Rights of the Crown, and from taking Measures, that

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from Endeavouring to set aside an Act of the British Parliament, must at once throw the whole Con=tinent of North America into such Confusion as must be it's instant Ruin, tis necessary to make any of the many Observations I coud on the Act, as I see this has put all further Negotiation out of Doors, and put me under the disagreable Ne=cessity of Settling it myself to prevent the Fatal Consequences of the Measures they have entered in=to and in which they are entirely Voluntiers by refusing Quarters to a few recruiting Parties only.

Nothing can be more disagreable to me, than having Disputes with the People of Boston, for whom I have always had the greatest Regard from the Zeal & Loyalty they have alway profest for their King and their Country.

But as at present, from some Fatality, Things have taken so very different a Turn, they must par=don me if I do my Duty in preserving the Constitu=tion by Supporting the Right of the King & the Mother Country, & in preventing the Ruinous Mischiefs flowing from such Measures. —

I am, &ca. —

To His Excell.cy Gov.r Pownall. —

Endorsed

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Endorsed Copy - / A Letter from Lord Loudoun to / Gov.r Pownal. - / Decem.r 6th 1757 - / 12. / in the L. of Loudoun's of Feby 14: 1758. / 30

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Boston December 16th 1757.–

My Lord

I have the Pleasure by this Express, to Acquaint Your Lordship, That this Province has now in answer to my Message to them declared in the most Authentick and ample manner, that they are willing and ready to make an Act agreable to the Act of Parliament for the Billeting and Quartering any Troops that Your Lordship may have occasion to march or Quarter in this Province, as You will see by their Message, Copy of which I have the Honour to send You.

I do in the most earnest manner Intercede with Your Lordship that You will not upon this Oc=casion, and at this Juncture, send those Troops which Your Lordship had designed to have moved, from their Present Quarters, to this Place; I have hopes from Your Lordships good will to the People of this Province, and Your unwearied Attention to Conciliate the Affection of the Country to the Military part of His Majesty's Service that You will not deny me this Request.

I have the Honour to be
My Lord / Your Lordships
Most Obedient &
Most Humble Servant
T Pownall –

To His Excellency The Earl of Loudoun &ca &ca &ca

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To His Excellency Thomas Pownall Esqr. Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England &c.

May it please Your Excellency,

Your Excellency's Message of the 14th. Inst^t. together with the Letter which You had received the Evening before from His Excellency the Earl of Loudoun have been considered by Us with very Great Attention, and we hope that Notwithstanding His Lordships Present Sentiments, when the whole of Our Conduct & the reasons of it are considered by him we shall recover his Lordships favourable Opinion, and the Harmony which now seems to be in some measure interrupted will be fully Restored.

Our apprehensions of the Extent of the Act of Parliament so far as it relates to Quarters & Billeting differ from those of His Lordship.

It is His Lordships Opinion that those parts of the Act extends to His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations, We are Sensible that the Act in some parts of it expressley extends to the Plantations, and in others to all His Majesty's dominions beyond Seas, and such parts have been observed accordingly in this Province; but we are as fully satisfied that so far as it relates to Quartering & billeting it was

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intended to be local; and this appears not only from the words of the Act, but from the Nature and reason of the thing, seeing one General Rule can never serve the several parts of Great Britain only, much less the several Colonies & Plantations in America also, But notwithstanding this we have never denied or doubted that wheresoever His Majesty's Troops shall be sent for the Protection and Defence of His dominions Quarters & Billeting must be Pro=vided as often as they are necessary, Considering the great Charges to which this Province has been Exposed we could not think it reasonable that any Part of the Expence should be born by us, but being strongly urg'd to it, and being desirous of freeing the Inhabitants from the Burthen of Quar=tering Soldiers in their Houses, we have enlarged the Barracks on Castle Island and furnished them with necessary Utensils, and they are Capable of Containing a Regiment of One Thousand Men with their Officers. This was the Number which Your Excellency Recommended to us to Provide for upon Your first coming to the Chair. divers Recruiting Parties have since applied for Quarters & Billeting to the Civil Magistrates who did not think themselves Warranted by any Laws then in being to Assign them. Upon Your Excellency's Message of the 26th

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of November last An Act has passed Providing for Quartering and Billeting such Parties, and this Provision is as Similar to the Act of Parliament as can Consist with the differing State of the Towns and districts in this Province from that of the Cities, Boroughs &c in England & Wales, & of Berwick upon Tweed.

We had no Intimation that any further Troops were Expected in the Province. We freely own that we hoped His Majesty's Service would not Require an Additional Number to march or be quartered here, but we never Intended by this Partial Provision to signify that we would not make further Provision when the Service should require it. We are realy at a loss what Step to take to Terminate this affair, for his Lordship does not seem disatisfied so much from the insuf=ficiency of what we have done as from the manner of it's being done by a Law of the Province. The main Point in difference seems to be this. His Lordship insists that Sufficient Laws, Rules, & Customs are alrerdy in Force for Quartering and Billeting His Majestys Forces and that nothing further is Requisite except that the Civil Magistrate carry them into Execution: We conceive that when in Ordinary Cases His Majesty's

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Forces are to be Quartered and Billeted in the Province An Act of the Legislature is requisite to impower the Civil Magistrate to do it. We are ready to Pass an Act making Provision in such Cases for Quartering and Billeting such Forces as shall be necessary for our Protection and defence as Similar as may be to the Provision made in England. We have never supposed that upon extraordinary occasions when our Preservation or defence made it requisite to March or quarter a greater Number of Troops than could be Quarterd agreeable to the Regulations made by Law, We must not Submitt to the Rules and Customs which in Like Cases are allowed and Practiced in our Mother Country, we rely upon it that a greater number of Forces will not be ordered into the Province than what His Majesty's Service and the purposes aforesaid render Necessary.

We beg leave further to observe, and we doubt not Your Excellency will think it a Proper Occasion, That the Inhabitants of this Province are intitled to the Natural Rights of English Born Subjects; that by the Royal Charter the Powers & Privaliges of Civil Government are granted to them, that the Enjoyment of these Rights, these Powers and Privileges is their Support under all their Burdens & Pressures; this will animate & encourage

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them to resist to the last breath a cruel, invading Enemy; The loss or hazard of these Enjoyments from any other Cause naturaly tends to deject & dispirit them, If our adherence to these Rights & Privalidges shall in any measure Lessen the Esteem which his Lordship had conceived for us, and make a Breach upon that Harmony which has hitherto Subsisted it will be our Great Mis:=fortune, but we shall have the Satisfaction of reflecting that both in our words and Actions we have been Governed by a sence of duty to His Majesty and faithfullness to the Trust com:=mitted to us.

Province of the Massachusetts Bay
December 16th 1757.

The foregoing is a True Copy of a Message from the two Houses this day presented to His Excellency the Governor, as compared by me.

A. Oliver Secry

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Endorsed Copy. / Message from the Assembly / Of Massa:=chusetts Bay To / Govr Pownall / Boston Decemr 16th 1757 / 14. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby 14: 1758. / 32

New York, December 26th 1757.–

Sir,

I had the Favour of Yours of the 16th with a Copy of the Address of the Assembly to You, from which And from Your Assurances, I can depend on their making the Point of Quarters easy in all Time coming; And on Your Application, for which I shall always have the greatest Regard, I have countermanded the March of the Troops, which I was laid under the Necessity of giving, as the Footing Things had been put on was big with so many Mischiefs to this Part of his Majesty's Dominions.

As to the Dispute the Gentlemen seem willing to enter into, of the Necessity of a Provincial Law to enforce a British Act of Parliament. I shall not enter into it at all, as the Administration is wise and powerful, & will take their own Methods in Settling Affairs of that Nature.–As to the Gentlemens Imagining, that this Affair has made a Difference between them and me, I shou'd be very sorry to see Things in that Light; They and I have seen Things in a different Light, and that Affair is now accommodated, and, I imagine, settled, so that there is a Total End of it.– And it cannot enter into my Mind

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to imagine, that the Province of the Massachusets will not continue to be, at least among the foremost on the Continent to shew that Zeal for His Majesty's Service, and to cooperate with His Servants to the utmost, for the Good of those Provinces' in North America, as those are Things, for which they have justly claimed so much Merit. – As to my Part I will assure You, that I have the greatest Re:=gard for the Province of the Massachusets Bay, and that not only now, but on all Occasions, no Man of the Province will be more zealous in Suporting them in their just Rights & Priviledges.

Before I close this Letter it is necessary that I shou'd remind You, that it has not Yet come to my Knowledge, that any Provision has been made for the Ranging Companies I asked of the Province by my Circular Letter of Septr. when I formed a Plan of reducing the Expence of the Provinces by dismissing the Surplus of the Provincials above the Numbers of the Rangers, which I found Necessary for the Service during the Winter.

Altho' Your Assembly had not met when I dismissed the other Part of the Provincials, I kept no more of Yours than an adequate Number to what the other Provinces had order'd that Your Pro:=vince might reap the same Ease, that the other Provinses did.–

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But as those Companies remaining with me are not compleated in Officers I must again desire, that You will fill up those Vacancies, and I can have no Doubt, that Your Assembly will enable You, to put those Companies either on the Footing of those kept up by the other Provinces, or in some other Manner enable them to perform the Services thro' the Winter, for which they are kept up. I can have no Doubt of this, as from their Wisdom they must see the necessity there is at all Times and more particularly at this, in the Time of War, of keeping up that mutual Confidence and Unanimity among the Provinces so very essential for their Defence; for shou'd it come out in the last Days of Decem=ber, that the province of the Massachusets was the only one that had refused to come into my Plan, laid before them in September, after all the others had come into it, owning the great Sav=ing it was to them, it must have the Effect of taking off that mutual Confidence, so essential to the Whole, as 'tis to be apprehended, it wou'd cre=ate for the Future a Delay every where, and none wou'd come into any Measures proposed, till they had consulted their Neighbours, to know what they were to do; the Consequence of which wou'd

be, that the King, by His Servants, must take such a long Time in every Negotiation, that no Business cou'd be done; a Thing, I am sure, the Province of the Massachusets wou'd not chuse to be the Authors of; and as You are so well acquaint=ed with the Business of this Country this & many more Arguments must occur to You, which You, I am sure, will lay in a strong Light before the proper People and cannot fail of Success.

Wishing You the Compliments of the Season,

I am, &ca;

P.S. – As About 100. Men of the Troops lately arrived from England are drafted into the Regimts. in Nova Scotia, I propose to send them to Castle William there to remain till such Time as they can be convenient=ly shipped off for Halifax. –

His Excellcy. Govr. Pownall. –

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Endorsed Copy. / A Letter from Lord Loudoun to / Govr. Pownall. – / Decemr. 26th 1757 / 15. / in the E. of Loudouns of Feby 14: 1758. / 33

Boston, January 5th 1758.—

My Lord,

The final Message which I got from the General Court in Answer to my earnest & repeated Recommendations to the House to make Provision for Rangers, according to Your Lordship's Application to me, I directed the Secretary to send Your Lord=ship last Post, being myself at That Time so ill, I was unable to write or do Business. As they do in their Message excuse themselves from concurring to the Proportion of Rangers sent to Your Lordship by some other Provinces, otherwise than by the Provision made for that Part of the Regi=ment now with You, on Account of the very disproportionate Expence they are annually at (with=out any Assistance) for the Defence of their own Frontiers. I must at their Desire beg Leave to Acquaint Your Lordship, that according to the Account laid before me by the Treasurer for last Year, the amount of that Article alone was £18.000. Sterling, and the Amount of the Governments whole Charge £147.996 Sterling. When Your Lordship com=pares this Proportion of Service done by this Pro=vince, so much beyond what any other Province does, without taking of from His Majesty's General Ser=vice under Your Lordship's Command, one single

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Partie of His Majesty's Regular Troops, they rest in Hopes that Your Lordship will Esteem their Inability to exceed, the only Reason for their Non Compliance.

As from my own Sense of the Service, & my invariable Concurrence in Your Lordship's Opinion, I used every Argument and took every Method to induce them to comply, so since they have not thought fitt so to do, in Justice to the People I cannot but think it my Duty to lay before Your Lordship in as full and Clear a Manner as I can the Reasons they give for it.

Upon Failure of this, the next Thing I had to try was how to get the Men of the Province Regiment, now with Your Lordship, some Money to enable them to supply themselves with such Neces:=saries as their Winter Service shou'd require; The Method in this Government has hitherto been (and continues the same under the present Establishment for this Regt.) not to make up the Musters till the Service be over, and then and not till then, to pay them. Therefore whatever Money I gett for these Men must be as advanced; but this I cannot draw a Warrant for without advice of Council; I therefore asked the Advice of my Council, and got the Vote, (as enclosed) passed. Altho' before this Supply can reach the Men the Time for which they were enlisted

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and for which the Establishment of Pay is made, will be elapsed — yet as they may have contracted some necessary Debts & will most certainly want money to bring them home, when Your Lordship dismisses them, I hope it may not come too late to be of some Service. This, My Lord, is all I am able to do without the Assistance of the Legislature, and this I have done as soon as I found it lay with Me; had I done it sooner it wou'd have been taking this Affair upon myself, and have been a Reason for the House's doing Nothing in it.

I have the Honour to be,
My Lord,
With the Highest Esteem & Respect,
Your Lordship's
most obedient
humble &
most devoted Servant
T Pownall —

His Excellency The Earl of Loudoun —

Copy

Endorsed Copy. / A Letter from Gov.r Pownall to / Lord Loudoun — / January 5th 1758 — / 16. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feb.y 14: 1758. / 34

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Province of the

Massachusetts Bay—

At a Council held at the Council Chamber in Boston upon Wednesday the 4th Day of January, 1758.

His Excellency having desired the Board to consider of some proper Way of furnishing the Officers and Soldiers now in Service under His Excellency The Earl of Loudoun in the Pay of this Province with two Months Wages,—

Advised, that His Excellency The Governor write to Lord Loudoun, and pray His Lordship to advance two Months Wages to each Officer & Soldier and immediately upon Advice of such Sums being advanced and to what Officers & Soldiers the same has been paid that a Warrant issue upon the Treasury for Repayment of the Same to His Lordship's Order.—

Copy Attest,

Thos. Clarke Depty Secry

Copy

Endorsed Copy.—/ Advice of the Council of the Massachusets/ to the Govr. relating to the pay of Their Troops / serving under Lord Loudoun.—/ Jan: 4th 1758— / enclosed in Govr. Pownall's Letter of the 5th.—/ 17./ in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby 14: 1758. / 35.

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New York January 9th 1758.

Sir

On Saturday night the 7th Instant I re:ceived Mr. Olivers Letter of December 26th with the Account of Billeting the Troops rais'd by the Province of the Massachusets Bay from the 25th day of March to their Arrival at Springfield.

I immediately put that Account with the Muster Rolls sent me in my last, into the Hands of the deputy Quarter Master General, in order that He should compare them carefully, and Report to me the proper method of Granting a Warrant for the payment of it, and he has this day reported to me, that the Muster Rolls do not Tally with it, and that even the Names of the persons do not agree, nor do those Rolls Vouch this Account.

And that it's necessary for me, to call for at least an Abstract of what in the Title of the Accot. is called Billeting Rolls to annex to the Warrant, to Vouch and Justifie it, and therefore must desire You will order that to be sent me, as soon as it can, and I will compare that with their First Returns, and settle the Accounts. do not let Your People imagine I mean from hence to postpone the

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payment, I realy do not, and only want such Vouchers as will Justifie my granting the Warrant, which I cannot do without proper Vouchers.

I do not remember that I gave them any writing on this Subject, but be that as it will, I do here Acknowledge that I gave them my word, and am ready to fulfill it, as soon as, they can give me the proper Vouchers, and will give them every Aid in my power in making them up.

And at the same time I must ac=quaint You that I will stop out of this money, first the Exactions of the people of the Country from the Rangers I march'd through Your Pro=vince last spring, who charged them 14^{d} Sterling a man every day for Quarters and diet, as the Crown allows but 4^{d} for their Victuals, I will stop the Tenpences.

And to shew You that this is no new Reso=lution, I must acquaint You, that in the Warrants I granted for this money last may, I noted on the Back of them, that I would stop this 10^{d} out of the first money I was to pay, to the several Pro=vinces, where the Exaction happen'd in order to reimburse the Public, and those Warrants went Home in June last.

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I will likewise stop the Extraordinary Ex:
=pence the recruiting Partys were at above the
4^{d}. allowed whilst they were refused Quarters, as
I have no other fund I can charge that to.

I received likewise from Mr. Oliver an
Account of the Expence of detaining the Flag
of Truce that came from Louisbourg, and
was detaind at my desire at a time when
we were ready to sail, and a Fleet expect:
=ed from England, and at a time when
every body knows the Flag of Truce came
in order to carry Intelligence of what prepara:
=tions were made in this Country.

That is an affair I do conceive does
in no shape come within my Province to
pay for, but is entirely Provincial, I have ap:
=plied to the Government here to detain the
Prisoners, which they intended to have sent
away, to save the expence of maintaining them,
and they make no claim on the Crown for
it, but Continue to maintain them in order
to Cooperate with me for the General Service, as
directed by the Crown. Its material for the
Service that they should not be sent away at
present, I am sure it was fully as much so,
that the Flag of Truce should not be sent

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be Louisbourg, with an Engineer on Board her at that time, besides were it to be paid by the Crown, there are many Articles in it that would not pass in my Accounts.

I received likewise in Mr. Olivers letter a Copy of the Message from the Representatives to Your Excellence, of the 20th of December 1757 in answer to that part of Your Speech which related to the keeping up a certain number of Rangers for the Winter, in Consequence of a Letter from me, of the 7th of September, at which time I had formed the plan for the Security of the Country, and the saving at the same time the Expence the Province were at.

As I have writ to You on this Subject last Week, I shall say but very little on this Point, I shall pass over the preamble, and only take notice of that part of their Message, in which they complain of bearing an unequal share of the Burthen; and that regard shou'd be had to what each of them, is obliged to do, for it's immediate Security.—

As You was not arrived when I made an application to the new England Governments last Year, it's necessary I shou'd acquaint You that in all the applications I have made to the Governments

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I have made them on the Plan of the General con=vention at Albany, which altho, it has not been confirm'd by the several Governments, has been Con=stantly the rule ever since by which they have furnished men for the common Cause, and I have never heard of any other Rule in this Country.

At the meeting in Boston last January, where I had a meeting with the Governors and Commissioners from the Four new England Govern=ments they readily agreed to raise the Number of men I ask'd for the Public Service, but could not agree on the Quota each was to furnish, to make them up, and at a Meeting in my House where the whole were present, after talking a great deal it came at last, by a sort of Tacit consent in=to my hands to accommodate this Point among them, it had been proposed that the Province of the Massachusetts shou'd furnish 2200, I im=mediatly mark'd them down at 1800. which was immediately opposed by the People of Connecticut, whom I mark'd at 1400. which was bringing them up much nearer in Number to the Massachusetts than ever they had been before and I gave my Reasons for my Opinion, that the Massa=chusetts had the Expence of a Frontier of their own to defend besides the share they bare in

the General Service, and that the number of People in Connecticut were greatly Increased, and carried the Point for them, with some difficulty, with the other Governments, and this Transaction was in a full Meeting of the Commissioners, and is the only deviation I have made from the Albany Con=
=vention, and takes of that Claim of Unequality, if they will Complain of the proceedings of that Meeting at Albany where they had the Lead.

I have farther dismiss'd all the Troops but the proportional number I have had granted by other Provinces, altho I have had no answer to my Letter of September 7th till this Copy of the Assemblys address of december 20th which came in Mr Olivers Letter to my hands on the 7th of January

So that what they mention of unequality, You see has been already Provided for by me, and since that every ease given them, and every Attention had to their Interest, even without wait=
=ing for their Complyance with my necessary request.

There seems at Present to be a good deal of Humour in the Assembly, and if I had the Honour to be a Member of it, I would propose to them a different manner of shewing it, which would answer their purpose sooner, and more to their advantage.

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They seem at present to be willing to refuse every Aid to the publick that is ask'd from them, the dispute they rais'd about giving Quarters to the Recruiting parties has had very bad Effects in several places, those are in general got the better of.

This refusal of giving the Rangers, must have another bad Effect for the whole Provinces, as it breaks off that Mutual confidence & des:=troys the only rule by which the Provinces have cooperated; can that be for the advantage of the Provinces of North America, if the Provinces refuse their Aid, to cooperate with the Force the King has sent for their Protection, at the sole ex:=pence of the Mother Country, will that be for the advantage of North America in General, or will the people who's persons and propertys, are in North America, receive any Benfit from such a Measure.

Would it not be more for the advantage of the Country, for them to obey the orders they have repeatedly received from the Secretaries of State, in the mean time, and Cooperate with the Kings Servants in defending the Country and opposing the Enemy, and if they disaprove of the Conduct of any of the Kings Servants employed in this Country, Lay their Complaint before the

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Kings Ministers, who will Lay them before him, on whose Justice they may depend for redress, if their Complaints are well founded.

Would not this be more decent to the King, & the Mother Country, more for the safety and advantage of North America, and be a shorter way of having their Grievances redress'd, if they have any, than by entering in to measures that may have the Effect of disolving the agreement and Harmony among the Provinces, and of throw=ing all North America into Conffusion in the Middle of a War, with a powerfull Enemy at their Back.

As I dare say You have Suggested all these things & shew'd them still more bag Consequences Such Measures may be productive of, both to themselves and the Community.

And as I can have no doubt that the Gentle=men mean to give obedience to the Kings Commands; and that they realy mean the good of their Country, and of Course that on Serious consideration they will Co-operate heartily with the Kings Servants against the common Enemy; I will detain You no longer at present than to Assure You.

I am with the greatest regard

Sir &ca.–

To Governor Pownall.

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Boston January 9th 1758.

My Lord

I was honoured with Your Lordships Letter of December 26th 1757. which I directed the Secretary to lay before the General Court.

By the enclosed Message to me Your Lordship will see how desirous the people are to stand well with Your Lordship how anxious to Justifie and restore themselves to Your good Opinion and how ready to disavow that Principle which Your Lordsp thinking them willing to enter into a dispute upon, thought them so unjustifiable in, which indeed they not only would be, but would think themselves to be.

I am extreamly glad to see that this affair is accommodated in a manner that Your Lordship rests satisfied in; And as I cannot but be conscious that I endeavour'd to do & have so conducted this affair as to Prevent all occasion of difference betwixt Your Lordship and the People of this Province, I am further happy to find what=ever apprehensions may have arisen during the Transaction of the affair, that my conduct in the end is not only accepted by Your Lordship, as You are pleased to Express in Your Letter of December 6th from New York; but also approved

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by the people of my Government as they fully ex=
=press in this Message, — as Your Lordship will al=
=ways find me, to the utmost of that Power which
my Station here gives me, Active & anxious for
His Majesty's Service on account of my duty to
my Royal Master: so from Motives of a most sin=
=cere Atachment to Your Lordships Honour, shall
I be particularly Anxious to see it succeed in
Your hands.

Accept My Lord the good wishes of the season and may they attend You through every Part of this Years operations, and crown His Majesty's Service with success, and Your Lordship with Honour in the Execution.

I am
My Lord
Your Lordships
Most Obedient
Faithfull and
Most Humble Servant
Thos Pownall —

To His Excellency the Earl of Loudoun —

Endorsed copy, of a Letter from / Governor Pownall To / The Earl of Loudoun / Boston Janr. 9th 1758. / 19 / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby 14: 1758. / 37

FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

To His Excellency Thomas Pownall Esqr. Captain General and Governor in Chief and over His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, &c.—

May it please Your Excellency,

We are very glad to perceive by the Letter from His Excellency The Earl of Loudoun, which You have been pleased to direct the Secretary to lay before us, that the Conduct of the General Court is so well approved of, and that His Lordship has thereupon Countermanded the Orders which he had given for marching Troops to be quarter'd & billetted within this Province.

We thank Your Excellency for Your Good Offices in our Behalf, and for the Care and Pains we are sensible You have taken to avert the Troubles which seemed to be coming upon us. We doubt not that future Assemblies will act upon the same Principles with this Assembly, and that the Massachusetts Province will always deserve the favorable Opinion of the General of His Majesty's Forces.

We wish to stand perfectly right with His Lordship and it will be a great Satisfaction to us, if we may be able to remove His Misapprehensions of the Spring and Motive of our Proceedings. His Lordship is pleased to say, that

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we seem willing to enter into a Dispute upon the Necessity of a Provincial Law to enforce a British Act of Parliament. We are utterly at a Loss what Part of our Conduct cou'd give Occasion for this Expression. The Point in which we were obliged to differ from His Lordship, was the Extent of the Provision made by Act of Parliament for Regulating Quarters. We thought it did not reach the Colonies. Had we thought that it did reach us, and yet made an Act of our own to enforce it, there wou'd have been good Grounds for His Lordship's Exception, but being fully Perswaded that this Provision was never intended for us, what better Step cou'd we take, than agreable to the twentieth Section in the Articles of War, to regulate Quarters according as the Circumstances of the Province requires, but still as similar to the Provision made in England as possible; and how can it be inferred from hence, that We suppose a Provincial Act necessary to enforce an Act of Parliament?

We are willing by a due Exercise of the Powers of Civil Government (and we have the Pleasure of seeing Your Excellency concur with us) to remove as much as may be all Pretence of Necessity of Military Government; such Measures we are sure will never be disapproved by the Parliament of

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Great Britain, our dependence upon which, we never had a Desire or thought of lessening. From the Knowledge Your Excellency has ac=quired of us, You will be able to do us Justice in this Regard.–

In our Message to Your Excellency, which You had transmitted to His Lordship, we declar=ed that the Act of Parliament, the Extent of which was then in Dispute, so far as relates to the Plantations had always been observed by us.–

The Authority of all Acts of Parlia=ment, which concern the Colonies and ex=tend to them, are ever acknowledged in all the Courts of Law, and made the Rule of all Judicial Proceedings in the Provinces.

There is not a Member of the General Court, & we know no Inhabitant within the Bounds of the Government, that ever Ques=tioned this Authority.

To prevent any ill Consequences that may arise from an Opinion of our holding such Principles, we now utterly disavow them, as we shou'd readily have done at any Time past, if there had been Occasion for it, and we pray that His Lordship may be acquainted

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therewith, that we may appear in a true Light, and that no Impressions may remain to Our Disadvantage.—

January 6th 1758,

In the Name & by Order of the Council.

A Oliver, Secr.

Janry 6th 1758.—

In the Name and by Order of the House of Representatives.

T Hubbard Spkr.

In Council January 5th 1758. Read and accepted and Ordered, that Sir William Pepperell, Chief Justice Sewall & James Bowdoin Esqr. with such as the Honble House shall appoint be a Committee to present the Same Accordingly.

Sent down for Concurrence,

Thos. Clarke Depty Secry.

In the House of Representatives Janry 6th 1758—

Read and Concurred, and Mr. Tyng, Colo Choate, Colo Hale & Mr. Bacon are joined in the Affair—

T Hubbard Spkr—

Copy Attest,

Thos. Clarke Depty Secry—

Copy

Endorsed

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C.O.5:49

Endorsed copy-/ Address of the Assembly of the / Massachusetts to Gov.r Pownall -/ January 5th & 6th 1758 - / received with Gov.r Pownall's Letter of / January 9th 1758. -/ 20. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feb.y 14. 1758. / 38.

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New York January 18th. 1758.

Sir

I have just now the favour of Your two Letters of the 5th. and 9th. Instant, which I am set down to answer, that I may not de=lay the Post from returning whose attention to collecting his Christmas Box has made very ir=regular for three weeks.

I shall only observe in answer to Your Letter of the 5th. The words are, that the Pro=vince excuse themselves from furnishing Rangers, "otherwise than by the Provision made for that part of the Regiment now with You."

It does not appear to me by any thing You have Transmitted that any Provision has been made for that part of the Regiment with me, except by the answer of the Council, desiring You to apply to me to advance two months pay to the Officers and Soldiers, which I shall very willingly do, and I imagine I have as much of the money belonging to the Province in my hands as will answer it.

Nor does it appear to me, when I have ad=vanced this money, that the Province have taken any Step, by which they are to be continued in the Service, as long as those of the other Provinces in

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order to keep up that Confidence & unanimity which is so necessary to Cultivate among the Provinces, nor do I see that they can be kept by any other Means but by an Act of Power in me, which is a thing I never do but in Cases of absolute necessity.

I have so fully answerd that of the Un=equality of their proportion, in my last Letter, that in this I shall only say, as to the Annual Expence of £147.696. I imagine if I were to look over that Account, I shoud find in it the Ex=pence of Building and equiping Two Ships of War, with the Pay of their Officers and Crews, and altho' the Building & equiping are Anual as to this Year, they will not be so as to the next Year nor for many Years to Come. Besides those Ships were taken into Consideration last Year, and the Expence of them was used as an Argument for the abating of the Number of Troops, which I then procured for them.—

And as to their having no Assistance in Guard g. their Frontiers, I do not see at present that they are in any danger, as I have kept a strong Post just without their Province, in the only Place where danger might be apprehended.

The Address the Council and House of Representatives have presented to You is a Very

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handsome one, and it gives me great pleasure to read it, and Contains Useful Things in it.

As to the Gentlemens' imagining that I had Conceived an ill opinion of them, and that from thence had Contracted an ill will Towards them, I shou'd be extreamly unfit for the Station I have the Honor to Act in at present, if I were Capable of thinking or acting in that way, I do assure You, I have contracted no ill Will to any set of Men in His Majesty's American dominions; but have had the Happiness to Contract Friend=ships, with Men I have Met with, who have boths parts & Judgement, which they are ready on all occasions to exert for the Good not only of the Province they live in but for the Common Cause of the Whole, and as to the Province of Massachusetts, I shall be ready on every occasion to convince them by my actions, that no Member of it has it's Interest more at Heart than I have.

But when we happen to differ in Opinions on Essential Points, they must pardon me if I continue to Insist, untill they either convince my reason or I see that I can carry on the Service, more to the good of the Publick another Way.

I am very sensible of the Pains You have been at to open the Eyes of the People,

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and to let them see how destructive the measures were that they were pursuing, and the good Effect Your Pains have had with them, –

I wou'd willingly wait for the Arrival of a Packet from England before I set out for Boston, but as the season advances so very fast, I can delay my Journey but very little Longer, and there=fore must desire that You will keep the Assembly together, as it will be necessary for His Majesty's Service, that they shou'd be sitting at the time I come to make application for such Aid, As will be necessary for carrying on the General Service of His Majesty's dominions in North America.

I am &ca –

To His Excellency Governor Pownall –

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from The / Earl of Loudoun, To / Govr. Pownall / January 18th 1758 – / 21. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby 14: 1758. / 39.

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Boston January 19th 1758.

My Lord

I was honoured with Your Lordships Letter of the 9th Instant I have give orders to have the Billeting Rolls copied out directly they are now in hand as soon as done they shall be sent.

As to the request upon the charge of the Flagg of Truce detain'd here, twas before my Arrival and therefore in my Public character I beg to be excused giving my Sentiments on it, but in my Private, I cannot but acknowledge the force of Your Lordships, & cannot but conceive it as a Provincial charge.

I had the honour to write to Your Lordship by last Post I therein acquainted Your Lordship that since the Final Message of the House refusing to make Provision for Rangers beyond the time of the enlistment of the Present, I had spoke with several of the Members, and done what I cou'd to prepare the Matter and then desired Mr Gridley to move it again upon Your Lordships last Letter, he promised he wou'd, he has not done it Yet, I have not seen him since, I got Colonel Jarvis to ask him why he had not, he said the House was not ripe for it, if he does not I will try some one else;

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When Your Lordship knows how much it is my Opinion, that the Provincials wherever join'd with the Regulars shou'd be in the shape of Rangers & remembers what I have wrote on that Head, Your Lordship cannot doubt of the many Argu=ments I have used on this head. —

I have at last got a Militia bill throw, wherein they Provide Bayonets for half the Effec=tives and make Mutiny and desertion death, against the Yeomen and Freeholders of the Militia.

I am in hopes also to obtain their making Provision for my building a Fort at Penobscot which will be a Service of the utmost importance, but that Labours on Account of the Expence, and whether I shall Succeed or not much doubt

I am My Lord under many obligations
Your Lordships
Most Faithfull
And Obedient Servant
T. Pownal

To The Right Hon.ble The Earl of Loudoun.

Endorsed Copy, of a Letter from / Governor Pownall, To/ The Earl of Loudoun / Boston Jan.r 19th 1758. / 22./ in the E. of Loudoun's of Feb.y 14: 1758. / 40.

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Boston January 28th. 1758.

My Lord,

The two Packetts that I send by Mr. Mc. Kennon I received from Halifax since the last Opportunity I had of writing to Your Lordship; I understood by their Letters that there were Nothing which required immediate Dispatch so thought it needless to send them by a Special Messenger.

I am, My Lord, under great Difficulties about the Souldiers and Prisoners from Canada, which General Hopson sends to me. The Souldiers are not under my Command, and the Officers Commanding here, tho' I have applied to them, will not take them under their Command so as to be answerable for them. I can neither order the Men to remain here, nor give them any Rout to join their Regt. by any Order that they are under Obligation to obey. They can neither live here nor upon their March without Money; Your Lordship is sensible, as in the Case of the Oswego Carpenters, the two Souldiers of Otway's, the Waggoner and another Souldier, that whatever I advance either as Subsistence or for Necessaries, shou'd they want such, I must, as I have done, pay out of my own Pocket with:=out any Expectation of Reimbursement. However

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in the Mean Time, neither the Service nor the Poor People shall suffer; The Service shall have my best Care, and the Poor People my best At=tention. There is a poor Souldier here now; I have billetted him and ordered him Provisions; He is extreamly lame, I have ordered him a Doctor; He is almost naked, I will give him some Cloaths; all which I will pay out of my own Pocket, if there be no Way of Reimburseing Me. I must entreat Your Lordship's Consideration of the Circumstances I act under; If I cease to be honour'd any longer with Your Lordship's Commands in the Affairs of the General Service. To whomsoever Your Lordship shall direct me to apply, I will on all these Occasions.

I had acquainted Your Lordship in my last of my Endeavours to bring on a Reconsideration of the Affair of the Rangers, by getting Mr. Gridley to move it in the House, and I had accordingly prepared some of my Friends for it. Mr. Gridley has never moved it, as he could never (He ac=quaints me) find the House in a right Dis=position to receive it; and thus, My Lord, I have been disappointed in the last Resource I had.

I have now prorogued the General Court to the 2d of March, but not without a Parting Blow

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about their Tacking a Limitation to the Provision they make for the Troops on our own Frontiers; I will hope to Meet them next Sessions in a better Disposition; if not, I will hope to meet a better House next Year. I was obliged to prorogue them, but I have made this short Prorogation, upon the Supposition that Your Lordship's future Applications to this Government may require their Meeting so soon. If it does not, I shall prorogue them still further to the Middle of April—

I have the Honor to be, with the Highest Esteem and Attatchment, My Lord, Your Lordships, most obedient, faithful Servant.

T. Pownall.

To His Excell^y

The Earl of Loudoun, &ca. &ca. &ca.—

Copy

Endorsed Copy.—/ A Letter from Governor Pownall/ to Lord Loudoun.—/ January 25th 1758./ 23. / in the E. of Loudouns of Feby 14: 1758./ 41.

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At a Council held at the Province House in Boston upon the 30th day of January 1758.

Present

His Excellency Thomas Pownall Esqr. Governor

John Osborne, | Andrew Oliver, | Stephen Sewall
Jacob Wendell, Esqrs | Thomas Hutchinson, Es. | John Erving Esqrs.
Samuel Watts | Joseph Pynchon | James Bowdoin

His Excellency communicated to the Board, a Letter of the 18th Instant from the Right Honble. The Earl of Loudoun, and ask'd their advice upon it.

This Council think it adviseable,

That in as much as in consequence of the Act of this Province for raising and paying the Eighteen Hundred Men, under His Lordships command, the said Men enlisted for a Term not exceeding Twelve Months from the second day of February last and no further Provision has been made by the General Court for continuing said Men in the Ser=vice, and the Court is now under Prorogation; His Excellency therefore be desired to represent the state of this affair to His Lordship accordingly

Copy Attest / Thos. Clarke Dpty Secry

Endorsed Copy, / Vote of the Council of the Massa=chusetts Bay / Boston Janr. 30th 1758. / Inclosed in the Governors Letter / same day / 25. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby 14: 1758. / 43.

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New York Feb: 6th 1758 —

Sir,

Last Night I had the Favr. of Your Letter of Jan: 30th by the Post, and soon after that of Jan: 25th by Lieut. Mc. Kinen.

In Your Letter of the 28th there are two Things necessary for me to make answer to, first the Complaint You make of the Expences You have been at, that You cannot be reimbursed of; I was in Hopes I had satisfied You on that Subject before, when I shew'd You the many Oc=currences that had happened with Regard to the Oswego Carpenters, that made it extreamly improper for me to interfere in any Shape with them and indeed have had every Indication, but a direct Order, not to do it. —

That as to the Provincials, they must in Opinion be a Provincial Charge, and cou'd not come into my Accounts in any Shape, as I there more at Length shew'd You. —

That as to the three Soldiers of the 35th Regi=ment, as that is but a small Sum, and You have so much more Money in Your Hands belonging to the Publick, I proposed we shou'd settle that at Meeting; but since You do not approve of that, I have order'd Capt. Cosnam to pay You all the

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Expences You have been at on their Account, and to forward them and that Account to the Regt. which I think is the only Money I recollect I can charge in my Accounts, but if there are any other I shall pay them at Meeting.

The other Point is, where You use those Words; "If I cease to be honour'd any longer with Your "Lordship's Commands in the Affairs of the General "Service, &ca."—

From what, My dear Governor, can those Words have proceeded? I do assure You I cannot comprehend, as it is so totally different from my In:=tentions and my Actions, that I cannot conceive from whence this has entered into Your Mind, that I shou'd change from negotiating with my Friend, who is the single Person I have in the Place, whom I can expect to carry on the Service by. I have negotiated solely with You about all the Business I have had, and to the best of my Recollection since we parted I have neither writ or Received a Letter from any one Man in Your Province, as I have had no Business there, but what has gone directly thro Your Hands except with the Recruiting Officers, which is a Correspondence be:-tween them and the Adjutant General, so that it really does not occur to me from whence that Expression has arose—

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If You imagine I have concealed the Orders that came by last Packet, and that I am taking other Methods of Executing them than by apply=ing to You for Your Government, I will clear that at once. I had not a Letter from any Minister but Ld. Barrington, which except an Order to send Lord Charles Hay Home, every other were Duplicates and Triplicates of former Letters about Drafts &ca. So that as there are no new Plans I am going to act by my former Instructions, and had nothing to com=municate; so that I hope that Point is clear'd, and will make an End of that Jealousy You seem to have entertained about me, and shall now come to the Point of the Adjournment.

I cou'd have wished that You had been so good as to have let me know of that before You had done it, especially as I had acquainted You with my Intentions of being at Boston; and indeed 'tis necessary that the King's Servants shou'd consult and cooperate to=gether for carrying on the Service in their dif=ferent Provinces, or great Inconveniences must arise.–

As this very Affair shows; for as the Province of the Massachusets has generally had the Lead in the Business in the Northern Provinces, I

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had determin'd out of Respect to you and them, to begin by making my first application to them, and had agreed, the Day before Your Letter ar=rived, to Lt. Govr. Delancey's adjourning His Assembly, till I returned from You, and now this long Ad=journment to the 2d of March from the 25th of January will throw Things so far back, that it will be difficult to raise the Men, so as to be able to take the Field early, on which our Success depends, & it likewise comes to interfere greatly with my going to the South where my Presence is extreamly necessary for carrying on the Publick Service. Which has laid me under the Necessity of calling the Meeting of the Governors at Hartford.

You see I correspond entirely in the Style of a Friend, distinct from a Publick Letter, and shall continue it thro' what follows, which is in Relation to your short Postscript to Your Letter of the 30th of January in Relation to a Meeting of Commissioners from different Governmts. at Boston; as You have not mention'd the Business they are met upon, I can only judge of that from what Governor Fitch communicates to me in His Letter in answer to one of mine, acquainting him with my Intentions of having a Meeting with the Governors & Commission=ers from the Assemblys of the four New England

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Governments at Boston, in which he says, that the Commissioners from Him are directed, amongst other Things, to confer concerning the Respective Quotas, and Measures for duely applying the combined Force &ca, from which Instructions I can not but foresee that Mischiefs may arise, big with very fatal Consequences.

As to the Quotas, You will remember that when You was at New York, I had an Occasion to give You my Opinion on that Subject, on Your proposing to to me to apply seperately to the dif=ferent Governm^ts. for the Number I wanted for the Public Service, & to have no Regard to Quotas, but to proportion the Number as I thought the different Governments cou'd afford; and You will remember that my Opinion then was, that as there has been no other Rule established for the Numbers to be furnished by each Province since that laid down at the General Meeting at Al=bany, and that as that had been acquiesced under ever since, I thought that attempting to make any Alteration in it now, in the Time of the War, might be attended with very Bad Consequences, and wou'd naturally occasion Dis=putes, which there wou'd not be Time to settle, and as this wou'd probably make Dissentions among

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the different Governments, wou'd not only destroy the Harmony that we ought to cultivate among them, but wou'd in a great Measure deprive the Publick of Part of the Strength they propose to avail them=selves of, from the different Governments, and that for those Reasons I did think it was too danger=ous a Step for me to take; and that as the Quotas stand no Difficulty has occured that we were not able to accommodate: for which Reason I thought the Measure of entering on a new Settlement of them, was improper at this Time.— As to the Information I have received from Your Postscript and Govr. Fitch's Letter it appears that this Meeting is composed of Commissioners from three of the Northern Provinces only, whereas the King's in all their Correspondence, have always included Six Governments, that is, besides the three that have Com=missioners now to meet, Rhode Island, New York, & the Jerseys.— The whole of these Six Provinces have not only hitherto furnished their Quotas, (which is a Word used in the Secretary of State's Letter to the Governors,) but their Troops have hitherto all been employ'd in the Same Service and have acted in Conjunction with one another.

Now if from Mr. Fitche's Instructions about Settling of Quotas, if that is to be the Business of

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this Meeting, if three Provinces of Six make an Alteration of the Quotas to be furnished by them without the Concurrence or Knowledge of the other three, and this in the Month of February, what Time can there be to reestablish a Rule by which the Service of this ensuing Year can be carried on? I need not point out to You the fatal Consequences that would naturally attend any Difference arising at this Time among the differ=ent Provinces, who are expected to act in Con=junction; And can only apply to You who are on the Spot where this Meeting is held, to use your best endeavours to prevent them from going into Measures that may have such fatal Consequences.—

As to the other Instruction Gov.r Fitch men=tions, of taking Measures for duly applying the combined Force; by the King's Orders, communi=cated to the several Governors by His Secretary of State repeatedly, and by His Commission and Instructions to His Commander in Chief, he has put that Power into the Hands of His Com=mander in Chief, and to him he sends the Orders for the Operations he directs to be carried on; from whence any Measure they take on that Subject must be directly in Opposition to the Orders and Intention of the King, or destructive to the

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Publick Service intended in this Country.–

As those Things are so clearly expressed in the Secretary of State's Letter to the several Govern=ments, and so consistant with Good Pollicy, and so essential to the very being of this Part of His Majesty's Dominions, I need make use of no Argu=ment with You to use Your utmost Endeavours to put a stop to Proceedings which shou'd they take Place wou'd overturn all the Plans lay'd down in great Brittain as well as ruin the Service in this Country, and when they had taken them, cou'd not answer, for the Youngest Major in the Service, that I shou'd send wou'd take the Command from any Person they cou'd appoint to command the Troops they shou'd raise.–

Now, My dear Sir, let me beg the Favour of You, to employ the proper Person to provide for the King 200. Whale Boats each to row with 7. Oars on one to Steer, and each Boat to be pro=vided with 9. good Oars, and to be sent here as soon as possible. Col^o. Otis executed the Commission very well last Year, but I leave the employing whom You think proper entirely to You, who, I know, will make the best Bargain for the Publick You can. I shall be impatient till I have the Pleasure of Meeting You to whom I have

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a Thousand Things to say much too long for a Letter.

I ever am &ca. –

P.S. – By this Post, I have enclosed to Mr. Handcock two Letters to M. G. Hopson and Lord Colvill, with Directions if Capt. Cosnam's Ship has sail'd, to forward them immediately by an Advice Boat; shall I beg the Favour of You, My dear Governor, to see this Direction complied with –

His Excellency, Govr. Pownall –

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from Ld. Loudoun to / Govr. Pownall. / Febr. 6th 1758. / 26. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby. 14: 1758. / 44.

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Copy,

Norwalk 2d. February 1758.

My Lord

Yesterday I received Your Letter of the 30th. January, but for as much as on the Motion of the Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Commissioners are already sent from this Colony to confer with Commissioners from the other New England Governments or with such of them as shall meet at Boston for that Purpose, And as those from Us are directed among other things to confer con=cerning the respective Quotas, and measures for duly applying the combined Force, especially of the Militia &ca. on any sudden Emergency, It is most probable that they will in a good measure pre=pare the way for a more easy Settlement of the Parts or Proportions of Assistance each Govern=ment ought to afford in such Operations as His Majesty's Service may require, and especially in such as shall be undertaken by Your Lordships direction; They will be particularly carefull for that purpose and avoid every thing that may in any measure interfere with Your Plan, as we and they are all with great satisfaction sensible the General De=fence and Security of the Country are under Your Conduct, and as I can't get another set of Commissioners

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appointed and empower'd without calling the Assembly together which will take some time and be con=
=siderable Expensive, and as it does not appear to me Necessary or expedient to take that step at Present, I would propose that when I shall have the Honour of waiting on Your Lordship as You pass through this place to receive from You such Matters as You may think proper to communicate, and to settle so far as I am able respecting what may concern this Colony; and then forthwith to call the Assembly and Lay the whole before it for Consideration; and doubt not but You will be certified of what Resolution shall be come into by the Assembly on or before Your return from Boston, This method I trust will answer all the Ends proposed by the appointment of Commissioners to Treat here or in Boston and with as little loss of time and much less Expence.

Application having been made to me by the Kings Attorney respecting the Serjeant in Colonel Frasers Highland Battalion, I advised that the Authority of the Government ought to Try him; And concluded he is deliverd up for that purpose, but if he be not and there should be any difficulty that shall make it necessary, I shall acquaint

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Your Lordship with it; As I am clear in it that he ought to be Tryed by the Laws of the Land which he has transgress'd, and that the Civil Authority will not be excusable in being silent in that Case.

I am
My Lord
with the highest Esteem
Your Lordships
most Obedient and
most Humble Servt.
Thos. Fitch

His Excellency The Earl of Loudoun

Endorsed Copy, / of a Letter from Governor / Fitch, to the Earl of Loudoun / Norwalk 2d Febry. 1758. / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby 14. 1758. /
45.

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Fort Johnson 29th of Janur. 1758.

The following piece of Intelligence was brought here by two Young Cayouga Indians and delivered to the Sachems of that, and other Nations then at a Meeting with Sir William Johnson.

That a small party of Seneca Warriors, who had been to War against a Nation called Tekaghseech on the head of Savannah River, and brought with them three Scalps, stoped at Fort Duquesne on their return, and while there the following affair happen'd.

A Party of Tweghtwees arrived at Fort Du Quesne, and after Saluting the Commanding Officer ask'd him where they shou'd Encamp, He directed them out of the Fort to an Indian En=campment, Then the chief man ask'd for Pro=visions, but the Commanding officer told him he could not have any he then askd for a dram of Liquor for his Party, which he was likewise denied, upon which he march'd with his party to the Encampment he was directed to, and after the Fires was Kindled, he made a Speech to his Party, desiring them to dress and paint themselves as became Warriors. They being ready, he began the War dance round the Fires, and was followed by every one of the Party, thus

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done, he desired them to take up their Bows and Arrows and follow him, and then headed his party singing the War song and march'd with them towards the Fort, and at the same time desired them to kill any Creature that came in their way, which they obeyed, and having done some Mischief and killed some Cattle &ca. the Commanding Officer Ordered the Garrison under Arms, and after calling for the Indians, told them they had always behaved in such a manner, but he would bear it no Longer, and accordingly gave orders to Fire upon them, all of whom were killed except Four who made their Escape.

As soon as these Senecas arrived at their Town, they acquainted the Sachems of the affair, who immediately Acquainted the Six Nations there=with, in order that they might be on their Guard, for it was expected that they would have a Message soon from their Bretheren the Twigh=twees, to assist them, against the French on Account of that Treatment.

Fort

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Fort Johnson 29th of Janu^r. 1758.

The following Speech was sent by the Quakers of Pensilvania to the Six Nations.—

An Invitation came late in the fall from the Quakers of Pensilvania to the Six Na=tions desiring they would Meet them early in the Spring at Lancaster, and at the same time acquainted them, that by the Invitation was only meant, one or two Sachems of each Nation, As the design of the Meeting was by no means to Promote or Transact any Warlike Business.

That they were the Descendants of the first Onas P and determin'd to have no hand in the present War, but to keep up to the Treaties of Peace their Forefathers entered into with us.

P Meaning Mr. Penn the 1st Governor or Propretor of Pensilvania.—

Bretheren

Many of the People of this Province have been Killed this War, Yet we have never Looked up, nor never intended to take up a Hatchet to revenge the Blood, that has been Spilt, nor do we charge the Six Nations with; therefore we must earnestly desire the Six Nations to send deputies to speak with Us, and renew the Treaties of Peace so long subsisting between Us.

A Belt.

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Bretheren

The present War between the English and French does not concern Us, it was enterd into beyond the Great Lake by the two Great Kings of England, and France, we have nothing to do with it, nor will we concern ourselves about it, we are resolved to pursue the Rules our Ancestors laid down to us,

Bretheren

We know the Six Nations were always a Warlike People, and we have considered their present Situation as they Sitt between two con:=tending Powers, no doubt very bare of every necessary, we want therefore to talk with You and know Your Resolutions;

If You incline to carry on a War against any Nation, we have every thing fitt to Kill Men with in Plenty, such as Guns, Swords, Hatchets, Powder Lead, Cloathing and Provisions which we are ready to furnish You with, We know if once You begin a War it will last till You con:=quer, or are conquer'd. — If You shou'd determine to strike the English, You must Kill the Soldiers[P] only, and not us, for We have no hand in the War, nor will we concern our selves in it, but supply

[P] Meaning any but themselves as they are no Soldiers.

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You with every thing in Plenty, as we have enough, & if You shou'd determine to strike the French, We will likewise furnish You plentifully with every thing for that purpose.

This Bretheren is our Resolution which we now acquaint You with, and for that Purpose call You here to consult with, and settle these Matters, as we expect no more blood will be spilt in this Province, but if the War should continue, and You engage in it, You may kill Men enough in other Parts of the Country without coming here.

So delivered the Belt.

The Above Speeches were sent down by the Six Nations to be delivered to the Mohawks and were brought by Sequareesere the chief Sachem of Tuscarora, and delivered to Sir William Johnson at Conajoharee in the Presence of

George Croghan, Esqr

Capt. Montour Interp^{r}.

And several Conajoharee Sachems

Endorsed Indian Intelligence / from Sir William Johnson / Fort Johnson Jan^{r} 29th 1758 / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby 14: 1758 / 46

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A Quebec le 22d Octobre 1757.

Mylord,

Je suis très persuadé que Vôtre Excellence est maintenant instruite du Procédé genéréux que j'ay eu cette Année, comme les precedentes non seulement envers les Anglais, provenant de la Garnison du Fort William Henry, et du Retranchement y joint, mais même envers tous les Anglais qui ont été jusqu'à present en mon Pouvoir. Les Premiers comme com=pris dans la Capitulation que M. le Mis de Mont=calm accorda, en Vertu du Pouvoir que je lui en avois donné, au Colonel Monro, doivent vous etre parvenus avec la Lettre que jay eu l'honneur d'ecrire à Votre Excellence par M. Freiche. À l'Egard des seconds jay toujours le même Empres=sement pour les envoyer à l'ancienne Angleterre, et il n'en reste presque point dans cette Colonie.

Je suis aussi plus que convaincu que Vôtre Excellence à fait renvoyer à Carillon, Les Prison=niers de tout Sexe Francaise, Canadiens, et Sau=vages, conformement à l'article 5. de la dte. Capi=tulation et je ne doute par même d'un Instant qu'ils n'y soient deja tous arrives, nottament M. le Baron de Longueuil, M. de Bellêtre, M. de fontenay Cadet dans nos Troopes et Mrs. la Coste et Gaucher Officiers de Milice.

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Je suis, Milord, extremement flaté lorsque je trouve Occasion d'obliger les Anglais. Vous avés pu etre informé du Plaisir que j'ay a les saisir j'en ay un bien grand à en donner une nouvelle Preuve a Vôtre Excellence par la Permission que j'accorde a Mr. Schuyler, Colonel d'un Regiment de Milice, et a M. Martin, Lt. de Artillerie sous les conditions Portees par la Parole d' honneur qu'ils m'ont donné par ecrit, dont cy joint Copie d' aller dans la Nouvelle Angleterre, pour y vacquer a leurs Affaires. Je leurs fais fournir les Vivres et tout ce qui leur est necessaire. Je donne Ordre au Commandant du Fort de Carillon de les faire escorter par un detatchement jusqu'apres leur Embarquement sur le Lac St. Sacrement.

Je suis dans la Confiance, My Lord, que je ne tarderay pas a reçevoir des Nouvelles de Votre Excellence. Je desire que M de Montegron Officier que j'ay chargé du Commandement des Sauvages et Canadiens qui conduisent ces Messieurs aye la Liberté d'aller jusqu à Orange et qu'il puisse même y attendre votre Reponce, vous voudrés bien, My Lord, le faire escorter et mettre a Couvert de toute Insulte, ainsy que Mrs. Schuyler et Martin s'y sont obligés par leur Parole d'honneur.

Dans quelques Circonstances, Mylord, que

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vous et moy puissions nous trouver pendant cette guerre j'auray une vraie Satisfaction a vous assurer de L'attachement sincere avec Lequel j'ay l'Honneur d'être

My lord,

Votre trés humble et trés obéissant Serviteur

Vaudreüil

Copie

Endorsed Copy — / A Letter from the M. de Vaudreuil / to The Earl of Loudoun. — / Octr. 22d 1757. — / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feby 14: 1758. / 47.

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Nous, Peter Schuyler, Colonel du Regiment Nouvelle Gersey Milice de la Nouvelle Angleterre prés par les François à Chouaguen l'Année derniere et William Martin, Capitaine Lieutenant d'Artillerie, pris dans la Partie de l'Accadie par les Sauvages en 1756, Prisonniers de Guerre au pouvoir et aux Ordres de M. Le M.is de Vaudreuil, Commandeur de l'Ordre Royal et Militaire de S.t Louis, Gouverneur, Lieutenant General pour le Roy en toute la Nouvelle France, et Pays de la Louisiane, donnons Notre Parole D'Honneur à mon d.t S.r le Marquis de Vaudreuil de ne point servir directement ni indirectement, ni faire aucune Fonction relativement à Notre Grade Militaire pendant le Sejour que nous ferons dans la Nouvelle Angleterre en Vertu de la Permission que mon d.t S.r Le M.is de Vaudreuil nous a accordée de ne nous occuper dans le d.t pais que de nos Affaires propres et particulieres, et d'être de Retour à Carillon le dix du Mois de May prochain pour tout delais prefix, et Nous Schuyler de Ramener les mêmes Personnes que mon d.t S.r Le M.is de Vaudreuil nous a permis de mener avec nous, nous obligeant expressement de faire escorter M. Langy de Montegron les Sauvages, et le Canadien, qui sont avec luy a leur Retour et de les mettre à

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Couvert de toute Insulte de la Part des Sauvages; en Foy de quoy nous nous sommes signés. Fait à Quebec le vingt deux Octobre, mil sept cent cinquante sept.

Signé, Peter Schuyler et William Martin.—

Endorsed Parole of Col: Peter Schuyler and | Capt. Lieut. Martin. Oct. 22. 1757.—| enclosed in Mr. Vaudreuil's Letter of | Oct.r 22. 1757.—| in the E. of Loudoun's of Feb.y 14: 1758. | 48

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Fort Edward Novem[r]. 8. 1757.

Sir,

Last Night I had the Honour of Your Excellency's Letter of October 22[d] by Mons[r]. Montegron, and with Him, Colonel Schuyler & Lieutenant Martin, and I have sent back to the Lake the said Officer with his Party with a Proper Escort, as I wou'd lose no time in answering Your Letter.

As to the Capitulation, Notwithstanding the most Extraordinary Breach of it by Your Troops carrying of the whole of the Baggage belonging to the Officers & Soldiers, and the Kings Arms, and afterwards by the most inhuman Murders not only of the Sick, but of many others, & likewise by the great Numbers of both Sexes, that were carried off Prisoners, in direct Violation of the Capitulation.

And altho' I attribute these Breaches of the Capitulation to the Army in General, You will agree with me, that if a General serves at the Head of Troops, he cannot command, He is not in a Capacity to make a Capitulation.

And here I cannot avoid taking notice of a direct Breach of the Capitulation in the Mar:quis de Monbalms own Person, in making Captain Fash a Prisoner and carrying him with him.

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Notwithstanding of which I have hitherto ad:=hered Strictly to the Capitulation in Expectation that You wou'd have instantly returned to me here, the place Stipulated by the Capitulation all the Prisoners of both Sexes, the Kings my Masters Arms, and the Cloaths and Baggage of the Officers and Soldiers, with all those concern'd in the Robberies and Murders, to be Punished at my discretion.

Notwithstanding of my hitherto adhering to the Capitulation, I am extreamly Sensible of the weight of what the Marquis de Moncalm writes to me in his Letter of August 14th in these words "Therefore "I beg Your Lordship will see the Capitulation full:=filled in every respect; the least Ommission, under "the smallest Pretence wou'd be to You, more than to "us, of the utmost Unhappy consequences"

Monr. Moncalm has certainly not been then informed, that the King, my Master, has in His Possession about one hundred Thousand of The King His Masters Subjects now Prisoners.—

As to what You call the fifth Article in the Capitulation; I know of no Capitulation; but that in English, signed by Lieutenant Colonel Monro, and I find none there to form so strong a Claim upon, if there were, it was beyond the Colonels Power, Nay, Sir, tis beyond mine to grant, and of

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Course must be null in it self.—

So far I have strictly adhered to the Capitulation what is to follow depends on the satis=faction You now make me, which I listen to in order to shew You, that I chuse to carry on the War with strict Faith between the Nations, and the greatest Humanity to the particulars.—

Whatever Troops You bring to the Field are to me French, therefore any part of them break=ing throw the Rules of War, will immediately lay me under the disagreeable necessity to Treat the whole of Your People in the same manner.

From Your Excellency's Abilities, and know=ledge of the World, I flatter myself these things will not Continue on the present Cruel Footing, as You must see from this Letter, what a wide Step I have taken on my Part to establish the War in America on an European Footing.—

As to the Particular People Your Excellency inquires about, they were Prisoners, in the Possession of the different Governors of Provinces, before my ar=rival, and as I have had no Complaints from them, I have never taken any Particular Accot. of them, but as soon as I return to the Sea Coast, I shall call for a Return of them, that I may be enabled to let You know where they are

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Enclosed I Transmitt Your Excellency some Letters that were put into my hands, the Contents of which, I shall not Trouble Your Excellency upon, till we have settled the main Point.

I have not Yet had the Honour to re:=ceive the Letter You have writ to me by the way of Louisbourg, probably the Storm, Your Fleet met with on the 24th and 25th of Septr, may have Prevented their forwarding it.

P.S. Since writing the above, I have discover'd that one of the Indians, that are come in the detach:=ment, has been guilty of such a Notorious Breach of Public Faith, that I shou'd have hanged him wherever I had mett him; But as I must suppose You knew Nothing of this, I have return'd him, but must beg You will give orders that no Men in that Situation are ever sent with any Flagg of Truce; The Man I mean wants the Tip of his Thumb.

To The Marquis de Vaudreüil—

Endorsed Copy / of a Letter from the Earl of / Loudoun, To The Marquis / de Vaudreüil / November 8th 1757.— / in the E. of Loudoun's of Feb. 14: 1758. / 49.

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Sir

As no packett has sailed from America since I returned to New York from Boston, where I had on the 10th of March the honour to receive your Letter of the 30th of December, with His Majesty's Commands to return to England; I take this first opportunity of acquainting you that in obedience to this order I sett out from Boston the next morning and arrived at New York March the 20th, where I gave Major General Abercromby Cop=pies of all such papers as were thought neces=sary for Carrying on His Majesty's Service and likewise every information that was in my power to give him.

On the 28th of April I embarked on board the Hampshire, and on the 3d of May sailed from the Hook of New York, in company with Commo=dore Durell in the Diana with the Devonshire, Lud=low Castle, Winchelsea, Hind and two Sloops, the Hunter & Gramont. The Transports with the 17th & 22d Regiments and the Artillery all got out that Tide, excepting two who would probably get out early next morning.

As I imagin Major General Abercromby had not received certain accounts of the Transports from Philadelphia having Sailed from the Delawar when

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he finished his Letter which he sent by Mr. Johnston of the pay Office, I have the pleasure to acquaint you that in my passage from New York to the Hook I met an Officer returning from Philadelphia who saw the Transports Sail out of the Delawar the 26th of April with the three Regiments from thence Vizt. the 35th, the 48th and the 2d Battallion of the Royal Americans, under the Convoy of two Men of War, the Scarborough & the Beaver. From the Winds we had it is thought they might arrive at Halifax by the 2d of May.

I shall have the honour of waiting on you as soon as I arrive in Town and am with great regard,

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Loudoun

Hampshire coming into the

Harbour of Portsmouth May 31. 1758

To the Right Honble. William Pitt Esqr. &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed On board the Hampshire comg into Portsmouth May 31st. 1758. / Earl of Loudoun. / Rd June 1st. by Mr. Johnson.

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New York 16th March 1758

Sir,

As I have already had the honor, by my Seperate Letter of this day, to acknowledge the receipt of Yours of the 30th of december, by Captain Loring; I am also now to Acquaint You with the receipt of Your second Letter, of the same day, containing directions from His Majesty, for my Conduct in the high & important Command He has been graciously pleased to honor me with.

As I have nothing so much at heart, as to Comply therewith to the utmost extent of my Power & Abilities, I think I cannot any longer postpone Acquainting You, with the small progress I have hitherto been able to make in them; first from Lord Loudouns absence, who is not yet returned from Boston; and next, because I do not think I ought any longer to detain the Packet, lest You might be uneasy at the uncertainty of their having reach'd me.

The first step I took, upon the receipt of these my Instructions, was to give the Necessary Orders, for the Troops Quarter'd in and about Albany, (destin'd for Halifax, according to the disposition transmitted by You) to hold themselves in readiness to Embark for New York, as soon as

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the River was open.

With regard to the Body of Rangers, His Majesty has been pleased to empower me to raise, I am to observe to You, that as Lord Loudoun had already, in the beginning of January, given Orders for raising Four Companies of 100. Men each, which I am in hopes are near full by this time, as they were under His Lordships Orders to re-pair to Fort Edward by the 15th March, I there-upon sent Orders to them, from Albany, to halt and forthwith to encrease their Numbers to 125. per Company, which, together with a Company of 100. now at Halifax, whither I have likewise directed these to repair to immediately, make up the 600. You have destined for that Service.

As to Mr Meserve Lord Loudoun having Engaged him at the beginning of this Year, to be at Albany as soon as the Season would permit him to work, and he being Actually on the Road from Piscataqua thither, with a Number of Car-penters, I dispatched an Express to him, with Orders, to halt & proceed to Halifax with 80. Car-penters, agreeable to His Majesty's Commands.

The Command of His Majesty's Troops, by my Absence from Albany, devolving on Brigadier General Lord Viscount Howe; I accordingly gave

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Him the necessary Orders relative to this Command, and immediately thereafter, I, on Thursday the 9th instant, set out for this place, which from the depth of the Snow, then beginning to melt, rendered the roads so difficult, that I was not able to reach it, till the 13th at Noon.

As soon as I arrived, I had an Interview with Lieutenant Governor De Lancey, who upon this, as well as upon all other occasions, I found extremely well disposed to promote the Public Service; And accordingly, we came to a resolution that I should write Him a Letter, desiring Him to call a Council, and lay before them & His Assembly, the Aid and Assistance His Majesty expected, at this present criticial crisis, from His good Province of New York; and likewise, that they would consent to an Embargo, on all Ships & Vessells above 50. Tons burthen; the latter of which they complied with on the 14th and the next day, agreed to raise 2680. Men; the Command of which is given to the Lieutenant Governors Brother, Mr Oliver De Lancey.

At the same time that I wrote to Governor De Lancey, I likewise made Application, by circular Letters, to all His Majesty's Governors

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on the Continent, from New Hampshire to North Carolina inclusive, for the like Aid and Assistance, in proportion to their respective Abilities, as re=commendd by Your aforemention'd Letter: As also, that they would Order an Embargo, in their different Ports, to take Place from the receipt of my Letter, & continue untill such time, as His Majesty's Service would permit me to take it off; of which they should have the earliest notice. - To these Letters I cannot yet have any reply, so that I must deferr giving You the result of them, till my next,- but by a Letter from the Governor of Massa=chusetts Bay, to Lieut. Governor De Lancey, of the 11th, received late last Night & put into my hands this day, I find that, that Government have voted to raise 7000. Men. - And by report, (but without any Certainty) the Colony of Connecticut, are said to have agreed to furnish 4500. - if this is true, & New Jersey, Rhode Island and New Hampshire, keep a due proportion with the other three, we may Expect about 17000. Men.

Pursuant to His Majesty's Commands, relative to the taking up a certain number of Transport Vessells, to convey the Troops destined for Halifax to that port, together with the provisions, Stores

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Ammunition &c; necessary for the intended Attack on Louisbourg; I have consulted with Commodore Durell, - And as there are not at present in this Port, a sufficient number of Vessells requisite for this Service, we agreed that I should im=mediately send off Three different Persons to Carolina, Pensilvania, & Boston, to secure a proper number in those different Ports, where, I hope they will meet with Success; of which I shall acquaint You in my next.

On the 10th Instant, arrived the Harriot Packet, which brought me the duplicates of Your Letters of the 9th & 11th of January, And the next day came in here, His Majestys Ship the Hampshire, Commanded by Captain Norbury, having under His Convoy, the Nine Additional Companies of the Highlanders, who had a passage of 12. Weeks from Cork, & met with very bad Weather; of this Convoy, there were missing, on his Arrival in this Port, the Arundell & Salisbury Transports, the last, we have, since, Accounts of her getting into Rhode Island;- The Troops being Sickly, I have Cantoon'd them in Villages Adjacent to this Port, for the sake of fresh Provisions & Vegetables;- I have also the satisfaction to acquaint You, that with this Convoy, arrived

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likewise the Renolds, which proceeds tomorrow to Halifax, with Naval Stores for the Fleet there, under Convoy of the Squirrel captain Whilock

I have the Honor to be, with the Highest Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient and
most Humble Servant
James Abercromby

The Right Honble William Pitt Esqr

Endorsed New York March 16th 1758. | Maj^r^ Genl Abercromby | R/ April 24th

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Seperate

New York March 16th 1758.

Sir,

On Saturday the 4th Instant, arrived at this Place His Majesty's Ship Squirrel, in which came Passenger Mr Loring charged with Your dispatches of the 30th of december, forwarded to me by Express which reach'd me at Albany on Tuesday Night the 7th

As You have been so good as to signify to me, that The King having Judged proper that the Earl of Loudoun should return to England, and that His Majesty had been graciously pleased to appoint me to Succeed His Lordship as Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America, I must beg of You, Sir, to Express my Sentiments of Gratitude to the King for so distinguishing a mark of His Royal favor and confidence in me: And to Assure my Master that altho' I do not think myself equal to so important & Extensive a Command, Yet no endeavours shall be wanting on my side, to convince His Majesty of my Zeal for His Service.

Permit me at the same time Sir, likewise to return You my most Sincere thanks for the kind Congratulations You have Accompanied this Notification with; As also for Your good Wishes of

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Success in my behalf; the best return I can make You for them, is to give You, the most frequent & early Intelligence of the many various Incidents & Events that may happen in the Course of this most important Command, which You may rely on.

I have the Honour to be with the highest Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient &
most Humble Servant
James Abercromby

To The Right Honble William Pitt Esqr

Endorsed New York, March 16th 1758. | Maj^r^ Genl Abercromby | R/ April 24th | Separate

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New York, April 28th 1758.

Sir,

By the enclosed Duplicate, of my last Letter of the 16th March, I had the Honor to acquaint You, with the Steps I had pursued, in Obedience to His Majesty's Commands, relative to the Preparations, for the Operations of this ensuing Campaign; which, from the Shortness of Time, and the Distance of several of the Governments, I cou'd then give You but an imperfect Account of.—

I am therefore now to acquaint You, with the further Progress that has been made in them, as far as the Same has come to my Knowledge; in which, I shall begin by the Northern Governments.—

New York, by Impress, has near compleated the 2680. Men, I mention'd in my last they had voted; and I hope, they will soon be ready to move up into the Back Country.—

I had no answer from the Jerseys, till the 1st of this Month, when, by a Letter of the preceeding Day, from the President of the Council, he acquaints Me, that their Assembly had voted their Regiment to be recruited to 1000. Men, which he shou'd endeavour to compleat by the speediest Methods in His Power: Knowing this Number

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to be far short of their Abilities, & fearing it might slacken the Ardour of the other Colonies, who are but too apt to seize upon every Precedent that may countenance their burthening the Mother Country, and excempting themselves; I cou'd not help representing to Him, in my Reply, that His Majesty wou'd very justly expect a stronger Exertion of their Abilities on this Critical & urgent Occasion; notwithstanding of which, I have not been able to obtain a further Augmentation of the Troops of that Province, nor do I to this Day know, what Success they have met with in compleating the above Number, altho' Mr. Reading, in His Letter of the 13th, promised to inform me of it, as soon as they shou'd have made any considerable Progress therein.—

The Numbers voted by Connecticut, Officers included, amount to 5000. but how far they have succeeded in raising them, the Governor has not yet acquainted Me; by Publick Report, their Levies meet with no Difficulties, and it is thought they will be able to compleat them.—

Your Letter of the 30th of December, having, on the 13th of March, been laid before the General Assembly of the Colony of Rhode Island, they came to a Resolution to raise 1000. Effective Men;

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on the 20th., the Officers were all appointed, and they were beginning to raise their Men, which they were to endeavour to compleat with the utmost Dispatch. — The Reasons given by the Governor, for their voting no more than 1000., are, that the whole Number able to bear Arms in that Colony, do not exceed 6000., and that one Thousand of them were then absent from the Colony, in Private Vessels of War. — On the 27th March, he acquaints me, that he is informed, the levying Provincial Troops goes on pretty successfully in that, and the other Colonies in New England, and that many seem willing to share in an active Campaign; Since when, I have heard nothing further from him.

Out of the 7000., which I acquainted You by my last, the Province of the Massachusetts Bay had voted, I find by a Letter from Governor Pownall, of the 22d. Instant, that by the 15th. of the said Month, they had raised 4796.; and that from his having been so fortunate, as to obtain a vote of the General Court, enabling him to compleat the Whole by Impress, by Drafts from the Militia Regiments, he hoped to have the Whole compleated by the 2d May: He further tells me, that as none of the Regiments were

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then under 600., and that he thinks it of the utmost Consequence, that I shou'd be supplied with a large Force at Fort Edward, as soon as possible, he wou'd give Directions for these to march directly to me, as soon as they can be arm'd and supplied with Necessaries; which I have since desired him to do.—

New Hampshire, by the Governor's Letter of the 24th March, had only voted 800. Men, but he therein tells me, that he was using all Diligence, to procure an Enlargement of the Vote to 1000. which I strongly recommended to him in my Answer; Yet, by His Reply of the 13th Instant, it seems he had not been able to carry this Point with His Assembly, who alledged, that the great Drafts made from that Province for Rangers, had so drained the Principal Men fit for the present Expedition, that they were apprehensive great Difficulty wou'd attend levying the 800. Men already granted; in which, Governor Wentworth says, he must confess there is some Truth; for altho, he had Made a considerable Progress in compleating the 800. yet he conceived a great Number must be impressed, not only in that Province, but in many others; However, that if he shou'd not be so fortunate

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as to obtain a compleat 1000. Men, yet he wou'd endeavour that the 800. shou'd be equal to it in Point of Usefullness; concerning which, he had given the most pressing Orders to the Recruiting Officers.— And here this Affair rests.—

From all which, You will see, that the whole Numbers voted by the Northern Provinces and Colonies, amount only to 17,480., which is 2520. less than was hoped wou'd (in Consequence of the strong & pressing Orders they have received to that Effect) have been ready to join in the present important Service, His Majesty has commanded me to undertake, in case it shall be found practicable.

But how far, or How soon, they will realize these their Votes, I must leave to Time to discover, as I am sorry to say, from what I have experienced since my Arrival on this Continent, that but little Dependence is to be made on their Promises; but I am willing to hope, I shall be agreably deceived in them on this Occasion.—

Although by what preceeds, everything seems to have gone very smooth, yet I have met with several Difficulties; which took Rise from the following Words in Your Letter; the Whole, therefore, that His Majesty expects and requires from the

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several Provinces, is the Levying, Cloathing and Pay of the Men. Upon the Strength of which, some of them wanted to exempt themselves, not only from furnishing their Men with Camp Necessaries, and Utencils, but in short every Thing, which they have been accustomed to provide; but this I have got the better on.—

The next Point they insisted upon, was, that as Provisions were to be issued to their Men, in the same Proportions and Manner, as is done to his Majesty's Regular Forces, it wou'd be of great Service for encouraging the Men to enlist, to have that Matter settled in such a Manner, that they might be assured of receiv=ing their Provisions as their Pay begins (which is from the Time of their Enlistment) or if they subsist themselves, that they shou'd be paid for it, from that Period, untill they receive the King's Allowance, at the Rate of 6d. Sterling Pr. Day, the same as is allowed by the Crown to the Con=tractors— Being desirous of furthering the Service to the utmost of my Power, and to avoid giving them Room to plead Want of Encouragement, I did agree, that Provisions shou'd be allowed them from the Day of their Enlistment; but that as, before they cou'd meet at the Place of Rendezvous, it wou'd be

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difficult, if not impracticable, to provide Stores in the many and distant Places thro' which their Men must pass, I wou'd allow them 4d. Sterlg. Pr. Day, in Lieu of Provisions, which was what is allowed to His Majesty's Regular Forces, when on the Recruiting, or any other, Service, distant from the Places where there are established Maga=zines; and to convince them, that no Profit arised from thence to the Contractors, but that, on the Contrary, it was a considerable and visible Saving to the Publick, I assured them that those Four-Pences were paid out of the Contingencies of the Army, by Warrant from the Commander in Chief, which is really the Case; & with it they now seem satisfied.—

But the greatest Difficulty of all, was about the Arms; in Relation to which, I repeated to them His Majesty's Injunctions, that they shou'd, with particular Diligence, immediately collect and put into the best Condition, all such serviceable ones as cou'd be found within their Government. The Number of these, by private Information, being likely to fall very short of the Complement wanted, I found it necessary, in Order to lose no Time, to insinuate to them, that as most of their Men had their own Private

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Arms, to which they were accustomed, and consequently wou'd give the Preference, as being much surer of their Mark with them than with those they never handled before, that therefore, I wou'd propose, they shou'd come provided with them, and that they might not suffer any loss on that Account, I wou'd engage to make good, in Money, to the Proprietors, such of those Arms as shou'd be spoiled or lost in actual Service; but this alone did not suffice, and they insisted, that I shou'd make some Allowance for the Loan of them, which I absolutely rejected; and at last they were reconciled to it. —

Notwithstanding all which, I am much afraid we shall be very deficient in that Article, if the Arms, You mentioned were to be forthwith sent from England, do not soon come out; for by my last Letters from Govr. Pownall, he had yet been able to pick up only 500. Stand, but he expected about 400. more from Nova Scotia, which, when the Troops of His Province, raised for the Beausejour Business, were dismissed, had there been taken from them; what Success the other Governments have had, I know not; and those in the King's Stores here, and at Albany are very inconsiderable, so that I have been

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obliged to give Orders to purchase as many as cou'd be found here, and at Boston; at the latter of which Places we have got 750.-

Before I quit the Subject of the Northern Governments, it is necessary that I shou'd acquaint You, with the Application made to me by the Governor of New Hampshire, in Behalf of the Men of that Province, who come under the Capitulation of Fort William Henry; 300. of which, he said, stood ready to enter into His Majesty's Service, & both Officers and Men, were in the most pressing Terms, solliciting him to permit it; alledging, that the French in many Instances had Violated the Articles of Capitulation on their Part, and therefore they esteemed themselves disengaged from Complying with their Obligation, and that they were willing to run any Risk, provided they cou'd have the Liberty to proceed in the Regiment then raising.-

Govr. Wentworth appearing Confident, that the Capitulation had been violated by the French, and seeming only to wait my Concurrence for Complying with the above Sollicitations, I did not hesitate one Moment in giving the Same.-

And upon a Hint of the like Nature, dropped to me from the Province of the

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Massachusets Bay, a few Days after, I owned what I had done in Regard to New Hampshire, & gave them the same Latitude.—

I come now to the Southern Governments; but previous to entering into a Detail of what has Passed in those Parts, I must not omit (which I find I have in my former Letter) to acquaint You, that Pursuant to the King's Commands, I had signified to Brigadier General Forbes, that it was His Majesty's Pleasure, that he shou'd Command the Forces destined for the Operations to be carried on to the Southward, and that he shou'd, without Loss of Time, proceed to Philadelphia, which he has accordingly done, and he is there now.—

And as I found, that it woud be a great Saving, in Point of Time, for the several Governors of those Provinces to correspond with him, rather than with me, who was going still further distant from them, I desired them, by a Circular Letter, solely to correspond with him, as he was to have the Supreme Command and Direction of their Troops; for the same Reasons, and that His Majesty might be the earlier acquainted, with the State of His Affairs in those Parts, I have likewise

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desired Brigr. Forbes, to correspond with the King's Ministers, and to give them, from Time to Time, and as often as any Opportunities may offer, a full & clear Account of His Proceedings, and of all Material Points relating to His Majes-ty's Service.–

But as it will not be possible for him, to do this by the present Conveyance, and that great Part of that Correspondence has hitherto gone thro' my Hands, or been communicated to me by Brigr. Forbes, I will therefore now give You an Account of it myself.–

The Assembly of Virginia, by Mr. Blair's Letter to Brigr. Forbes, of the 9th Inst., have framed a Bill, to augment their Forces to two Regiments of 1000. each, and to garrison their Forts with their Militia, which, with their Rangers he, Mr. Blair, hopes, may guard their Frontiers in the Absence of the two Regiments; He at the same Time, acquaints Brigadier Forbes, that they will want 1000. Arms, and begs his Assistance; Brigadier Forbes having applied to me for them, and I not being able to supply them with any, for the Reasons before given, I advised him to attempt putting in Practice, the Method I had observed with the Northern Governments, of which

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I gave him a full Account; but that, if he shou'd not succeed therein, he must purchase Arms, as the Business was not to stand still for the want of them.—

As You are not unacquainted with the Refractoriness of the Assembly of MaryLand, several Instances of which have been trans-mitted to His Majesty's Ministers by my Predecessor, I shall not here take up Your Time with a Repetition of them; but for Your further Information, I send you enclosed, Copies of Mr. Sharpe's Letter to me, Lord Loudoun's to him, and my Answer to the former; by which last, You will see the Arguments I make use of, to induce them to an Exertion of their Abilities, and the Reasons why, I decline fulfilling my Predecessor's En-gagements, in which, I hope I have not erred. Since that Letter, I have had no Re-joinder, nor do I know, what Resolutions they have taken thereupon; but I find, that in their Addresses to the Governor, of the 30th. of last Month, published in the publick Prints, they promise very fair.—

So early as the 24th. of March, the Assem-bly of Pensylvania, came to a Resolution to

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raise 2700. Men, Officers included; of which Govr. Denny gave me immediate Notice, but observed at the same Time, that unless they passed a Supply Bill, His Hands were as much tied as if they had made no Resolves at all; The Truth of which we have Experienced; for, from that Time till the 22d. Inst., when they passed a Bill, granting £100,000. to His Majesty's Use, nothing has been done; this Delay, was occasion'd thro' the unhappy Disputes, that have so long Subsisted between the Proprietaries & the Assembly of that Province, which You are no Stranger to, and therefore I shall not take up Your Time with them.

The Lower-County-Assembly, which, Govr. Denny says, have always behaved well, and particularly so on this Occasion, have granted a Supply of £8000., which, together with the £2300., remaining unexpended of the Sums thertofore raised for the King's Use, are all appropriated for the Service of the ensuing Campaign, & they have unanimously agreed, to raise three Companies of 100. each, Officers included.—

Lord Loudoun having informed You, of the Steps he had taken, to procure 500., or more Cherokees, to join His Majesty's Forces at

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Winchester, to act in Conjunction with them against His Majesty's Enemies to the Southward; I am now to acquaint You, that by a Letter from Governor Lyttleton, of South Carolina, bearing date the 21st of March, Mr Byrd arrived there the 10th; and Mr Atkin, being then Absent, he, Govr Lyttleton, & Mr Byrd concerted Measures, relative to this Affair, all which are contained in the Extract of the above Letter herewith transmitted, as are also Copies of Mr Byrd & Mr Atkin's, which will give You a further Insight into the Whole; If I was not pressed in Point of Time, by the Departure of Lord Loudoun, who embarks this Evening, in His Majesty's Ship the Hampshire, which Opportunity I wou'd not willingly lose, I shou'd not have put You to the Trouble of a Reference, which I hope You will excuse, on Account of the Necessity.— I shall therefore only add, on this Subject, that I have sent Copies of those Letters to Brigr Gen. Forbes, & that I have desired him, as they relate to His Department, that he wou'd act therein, as he saw fit.—

As I cannot, for the above Reason, by this Conveyance, give You so full and particular a Detail, of the further Steps I have

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taken, in the Prosecution of His Majesty's In-structions, I intend, in a few Days, to dispatch a Packet with them; Meanwhile, it is necessary, that I shou'd acquaint You, that all the Troops, destined for Halifax, have been embarked at Boston, Philadelphia and here; that those from Boston sailed the 22d Inst., under Convoy of the Province Sloop; those from Philadelphia, three Days ago, under Convoy of His Majesty's Ship the Scarborough, and the Squirrel & Beaver Sloops; and those from hence, are fallen down to the Hook, from whence they expect to proceed to-morrow, under Convoy of Commodore Durell, in His Majesty's Ship the Diana, the Devonshire Man of War, the Gramont Frigate, and the Hind Hunter & Tylow Sloops; _ The Transports from this Port, have on board, the 17th and 22d Regts, the Detatchment of the Artillery, the Battering Train and Ordnance Stores, and the Hospital; those from Philadelphia, carry the 35th the 48th and the 2d Battalion of the 60th: The 3d Battalion of Americans, with Fraser's High-landers, & it's three Additional Companies, went from Boston; As the Latter, by the Disposition made at Home, were directed to be employ'd on another Service, You will perhaps be surprised,

that I shoud have taken upon me to alter their Destination; but, as His Majesty had given me the Latitude, of making such Changes, as I found necessary for the Good and Convenience of the Service, provided I did not diminish the Numbers alloted to each, I dare hope, His Majesty will approve of this Alteration; my Reasons for which, are, that this Battalion, and its three Additional Companies, were quarter'd in the Colony of Connecticut, and therefore more contiguous to the Places of Embarkation; a shorter March to the Men; and a Saving in the Expence; Besides which, Lord John Murray's Regiment, having been all the Winter in the Back Country, and having Fed on Salt Pro=visions, several of them were ill of the Scurvy, with which it wou'd not have been safe, to have ventured them to Sea; Moreover, the Ship that had one of their Additional Companies on board, is still missing; so that, had the other Reasons not prevailed with me, I shou'd not have hesitated sending them, on that Account.

By the above Distribution, You will see, that Lieutenant General Otway's Regiment, which was destined for the Enterprise under my

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immediate Command, is added to the Body of Troops that are to Rendezvous at Halifax, without taking a single Man in the Room of them, in Order to make up the full Complement, directed for the Protection of Nova Scotia & the Services in that Quarter.

Col.o Messerve, with Ninety Carpenters, and four Companies of Rangers, of 125. Men each, likewise embarked at Boston, and have been some Time arrived at Halifax.

By the Gramont Frigate, which arrived here the 22d, I was honor'd with Your two Letters of the 27th of January, accompanying one for Brigadier General Forbes, one for Governor Lyttleton, and another for Brigadier General Whitmore; the two first, I immediately dispatched, by Express, to Brig.r Forbes at Philadelphia, who has since, acknowledged the Receipt of them, and acquainted me, that he had forwarded that to Governor Lyttleton, by Express likewise; — And that to Brigadier Whitmore, who commands the Embarkation from hence, I deliver'd Him with my own Hands, making him take particular Notice of the Superscription.

The following Day, arrived likewise the Devonshire, with the Hind, Hunter & Tylow

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Sloops, the Respect Snow with Naval Stores for Halifax, and 32. Sail of Light Transports; by whom I expected to have received the Ordnance Stores for New York, and the Southern Department, together with the Arms and Tents for the Use of the Provincial Forces; but I do not find, they have brought any Thing but 25. Bales of Hospital Bedding; They met with very bad Weather, and lost the Unity Brig, which was founder'd at Sea, but luckily they saved all Her Hands. —

The Prince Frederick Ship of War, dismasted, arrived at Halifax, the 8th. Instant; as did likewise, Seven Transports with the 15th. Regiment.

Col. Bouquet, whom Lord Loudoun order'd here in February last, with the five Companies of the first Battalion of the Royal Americans, which were at South Carolina, did not arrive here till the 19th., after a tedious Passage of 24. Days.

We have no Tidings yet, of Colonel Montgomery's Battalion, altho' it is near Six Weeks ago, since I wrote to him, forthwith to repair to Philadelphia, whither I have already sent His three Additional Companies.

After the Departure of the Packet, with my last Dispatches, I received an Account, of a

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Skirmish, between Capt. Rogers, and a Superior Party of the Enemy, on the 13th of last Month, within five Miles of Tienderoga, in which, the Captain and His Command, distinguished them=selves; but for a more particular Detail thereof, I must beg Leave to refer You to His own Journal. —

Since that Affair, all has been pretty quiet in that Quarter, and the Preparations are carrying on at Albany, with all possible Dis=patch, insomuch, that there are already 700. Batteaus built; which, together with Provisions and Stores, shall be sent up to Fort Edward, so soon as the Roads are practicable, and the River above Albany navigable. —

Mr. Peter Schuyler, late Colonel of the Pro=vincial Troops of New Jersey, who was taken Prisoner at Oswego, and detained in Canada upwards of 14. Months, having in October last, obtained Leave of the Govr. of Canada, to depart on His Parole, in Order to settle His Private Affairs, (which had suffer'd considerably, dur=ing His Detention,) upon Condition to return by the 10th of May next, if not sooner exchanged, did, upon His Arrival, represent His Case to The Earl of Loudoun, and lately, finding that

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Nothing had been done therein, he represented the same to me; upon which, I made an Enquiry, of what Prisoners were in this, and the Neighbouring Province, that cou'd be proposed as an Equivalent, not only for him, but for Captain William Martin of the Artillery, and one Mr. Stakes, a Surgeon of the said Provincial Troops, who were both suffer'd to come away with Colonel Schuyler, upon the Same Terms. — Whilst this Enquiry was making, I received a Petition from a Captain Corriveau & two other Canadian Prisoners, praying to be released and exchanged for Colonel Schuyler and the Surgeon; and soon after, I was informed that there was three Cadets, one of which being the Son of Mor. de Cheauvignerie, Commandant of Fort Machault, I did not hesitate to send a Proposal to Mor. Vaudreuil, to exchange these Six for our three, & acquainted him, at the Same Time, that, as their Prisoners seemed confident, he wou'd agree to these Terms, I had directed Ours, to wait His Answer, before they Returned to Canada; but as Colo. Schuyler and I, are apprehensive, that Mor. Vaudreuil, will not come into my Proposal, and that the Colo. wants much to be discharged of His Parole, He has drawn

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up a Memorial, directed to His Majesty's Secretary at War, praying to be exchanged from thence, and Has desired me to forward it, which I have accordingly done by this Occasion.—

He has likewise applied to me, for the Reimbursement of sundry Sums of Money, advanced by Him, to his Fellow Subjects & Prisoners, during his Captivity; in Relation to which, he presented a Memorial to my Predecessor, who was to transmit the Same to You for Your Directions thereupon; As he does not know what has been done therein, he has beg'd of me, to mention the same to You, and, for Your further Information, to send You another Copy thereof, which I cou'd not refuse him, as he is a Person of Merit & Worth, and in Great Esteem in this Part of the World; and accordingly beg leave to trouble You with the enclosed.—

I have the Honor to be,

With great Respect,

Sir,

your most obedient,

& most humble Servant

James Abercromby

P.S. I herewith join a Distribution of His Majesty's

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Forces in North America, according to the Returns of the 24th of February.-

The Rt. Honble William Pitt, Esqr.

Endorsed, New York, April 28th/1758./ Majr. Genl. Aber=
=cromby.| Rd June 1st by Mr. Johnson.

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Schedule of Papers enclosed & referred to, in Major General Abercromby's Letter to the Right Honble. William Pitt Esqr. Dated New York, April 28th 1758.

1. Duplicate of Major General Abercromby's Letter to The Honble William Pitt Esqr. of March 16th.
2. Letter from Govr. Sharpe to Major General Abercromby . . . . March 20th. 1758.
3. Lord Loudouns Letter to Govr. Sharpe, . . Jan. 2d. 1758.
4. M. G. Abercromby's to Govr. Sharpe, . . . Apr^l. 14th. 1758.
5. Govr. Lyttleton to L^d. Loudoun . . . March 21st 1758.
6. M^r. Byrd to D^o. . . . . Same Date.
7. M^r. Atkin to D^o. . . . . March 25th. 1758.
8. Capt. Robt. Rogers's Journal . . . . . March 17th. 1758.
9. Colo. Peter Schuyler's Memorial to The Earl of Loudoun.
10. Distribution of His Majesty's Forces in N^o. America for the Campaign 1758. — according to the Returns of the 24th of February —

Endorsed Schedule of the Papers | enclosed & referr'd to, in M. G. | Abercromby's Letter of the 28th. | of April 1758, to The Right | Honble William Pitt Esqr.

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Annapolis the 20th of March 1758

Sir

I do myself the honour to acknowledge ye receipt of your Letter dated at New York the 15th Instt., & also to inform you that in consequence of Mr. Pitt's letter of the 30th of December our Assembly is to meet here on Thursday next, when you may be assured I will use my utmost Endeavours to obtain as large a number of Men as possible for the Service of the ensuing Campaign, but at the same time I think it my Duty to tell you that I am afraid the Assembly will not be prevailed on to exert themselves in such a manner as you seem to expect. It was not without the greatest difficulty that I could perswade them last Spring to augment our Troops to five hundred, tho Each of the Neighbouring Colonies at the same time engaged to raise and Support more than double that Number; And because The Earl of Loudoun kept Some of these five hundred all last summer as a Garrison in fort Cumberland, The Assembly when they met again in October pretended to be much dissatisfied, tho our Frontiers had in fact been effectually secured by that Distribution of them; & when I

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desired them to make farther provisions for their Support they were so far from comply=ing with my Request as to resolve that they never would pay or Victual any forces which should be placed in fort Cumberland, & more=over to insist That our Troops should be forth=with reduced to 300 Men. After some time they prepared a bill for raising Money to Support that Number, but the Gentn. of the Upper House refused to accept or pass it, because it did not appear to them to be so much calculated to promote His Majesty's Service as to introduce dangerous Innovations into our Consti=tution, because by restraining the Service of the Troops which they proposed to keep up it infringed His Majesty's Prerogative. When I found that the two Houses of Assembly would not agree on a bill for the Support of our forces, I informed The Earl of Loudoun how Matters stood & intreated him to order some other Troops to fort Cumberland, let the Garrison that was then there should upon hearing that, the Assembly would not Support them disband themselves, & The Fort with it's Artillery be thereby abandoned to the Enemy, but as The Winter was now far advanced The Roads to

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Fort Cumberland become almost impracticable His Lordship was pleased to engage for the payment of our Troops as long as they Should continue to garrison that place, & Colonel Stanwix gave orders for their being Supplied with as much provision as they might Stand in need of. Upon this footing have our Men remained ever Since the 8th of October last, but I am afraid the Officers will not be able to keep them together much longer without pay, & the late Conduct & resolutions of our Assembly forbid me to hope that they will appropriate any Money to pay the Arrears that are now due to them, which amount I apprehend to about five thousand Pounds Currency or £3125 Sterling Was this Debt now to be discharged I doubt not but the Men to whom the Money is due would readily Serve the ensuing Campaign in hopes that the Assembly will enable me to pay them off at the end of the Summer, tho they Should at this time refuse to grant any Money for their Support, but if those Arrears cannot be paid unless our Assembly will at their next Meeting appropriate a Sum of Money for that purpose I hope you will be pleased to order Some other Troops immediately

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to Fort Cumberland, lest Accidents should happen; for tho I can promise you that no Endeavours of mine shall be wanting to induce our Assembly to grant large Supplies, & to exert their utmost Strength on this Occasion, Yet I cannot promise you that my Endeavours will be effectual, indeed the late Conduct and Resolutions of the Gentlemen who compose the Lower house of Assembly discourage me (as I have already hinted) from entertaining very Sanguine hopes of Success.

I have agreable to your Desire given orders for a general Embargo to be laid in all the Ports of this Province, & I embrace this opportunity of assuring you that I shall always think myself happy in being able to execute any other Commands that you may have occasion to Send me, being with the most Sanguine Wishes for your Excellency's Success & Prosperity

Sir Your most humble
& most obed^t. Servant
(Signed) Hor^o: Sharpe

General Abercromby

Endorsed Copy | A Letter from Govr. Sharpe to | M. G. Abercromby. | March 20th 1758. | 2. | in M: G: Abercromby's of April 28: | 1758

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Copy of The Right Honble The Earl of Loudoun's letter to Governor Sharpe

New York 2nd Jan^ry 1758:

Sir

I have writ you a publick Letter in the Stile that appears to me the most proper in the present Situation of affairs with Your Assembly. But as it is necessary on all Such Occasions to make the best of the Situation, and as it is extreamly inconvenient to Move the Troops at Such a Distance at this Season of the year, I must here make you a proposal of a new plan in Case you think it prudent for you to go into it, Which is this, That Notwithstanding that Your Assembly have broke up without making any Provision for Your Troops that you should give them orders still to remain at least a necessary Proportion of them, and that you will promise to find pay and provisions for them in hopes of the Assembly's making it good at their next Meeting, That this should be the declared Plan, but I do engage that in case The Assembly do not indemnify you that I will pay you out of the Contingences of the Army.

It will at once occurr to you the reason that makes me desire not to be known to have

in any Shape engaged to pay this money for fear of Setting a Precedent for the other Provinces to make demands for the Pay of their Troops; and yet in the present Situation I do think it necessary that at least a proper Garrison of those Men that are acquainted with the Country should be kept in Fort Cumberland for its security, & I should be extreamly happy if this Measure could be brought about. You will communicate with Colonel Stanwix to whom I shall send copies of the Letters to you; My orders to him is to cooperate with you & follow the orders he received of Novr. 3d. of which I transmitted you a Copy.

The Boston People have made a Disturbance about Quarters which I have at last got Settled, but not time enough to permit to come to you. Wishing you the Compts. of the Season I am

Sir Your m h Servt.

(Signed) Loudoun.

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Endorsed Copy of Lord Loudoun's | Letter to Govr. Sharpe | New York Janry 2d. 1758 | Enclosed in Gr. Sharpe's 20 March 1758. | 3. | in Majr. Gl. Abercromby's of April 28: | 1758

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New York 14th April 1758.

Sir

I cannot sufficiently express my Astonishment & Concern at the Contents of your Letters to me, and Brigadr Genll Forbes of ye 20th March, and 6th Instant, by which I find the Gentlemen who compose your lower house of Assembly have come to a resolution not to raise any Money, but upon certain restrictions, unconstitutional, & unreasonable, which as you very justly observe, is much the same as if they had declared, that they would not comply, in any respect whatever, with His Majesty's Requisition; upon what foundation they can pretend to ground so glaring a breach of their Duty to the best of Kings, I must own, I cannot comprehend, nor is it possible to conceive how they can be so deficient in what they owe to themselves, Are they not threatend and at the very Eve of being over run by a merciless Cruel Enemy, who are attentively watching every opportunity that may give them an easy Conquest and sure prey, does it not therefore behove them to exert themselves and use their utmost efforts to disappoint every such Attempt to the utmost Extent of their Abilities: Should they neglect so favourable an Opportunity as the present, in which

the King out of his Paternal Care and Tender=ness for all His American Subjects, affords them such Extensive Aids and Assistance, not only to avert any danger impending on them, but even to turn the Scale in their own favour by enabling them to attack the Enemy in their own Settlements; Should they I say, neglect such favourable dispositions in the King and the Mother Country, at whose door but at their own must the blame lay, if they should be deprived of what is most dear, their liberties and Properties, which is the least they can expect, if they persist in So uncommon & unwarrantable perverness and Inactivity: Let me therefore intreat you to awaken them out of their error or (which I should be very sorry for) I shall find myself obliged to represent their Conduct to the King, who after the Encouragement he has permitted His Secretary of State to give them, that their Services should be represented to Parliament, and Endeavours made to obtain them a Recompence Suitable to the Vigor with which they should exert themselves notwithstanding his great Goodness cannot in Justice but be dissatisfied & take proper Cog=nizance of So Unbecoming & Undutifull a disregard

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of His Royal Commands.

From the above reasons and such other Arguments as may occurr to you in Support of them, I should hope that you will be able to convince your Assembly of the Indispensable Necessity of their ready & immediate Compliance with His Majesty's Commands in raising as large a Body of Men as their Abilities will allow of, for the operations of the ensuing Campaign, as likewise to prepare & pass a Bill for raising Money to Support not only the Number they shall vote & raise, but also to pay off the Arrears due to those that Garrison'd Fort Cumberland, as it is impossible for me, notwithstanding my Predecessor's Engagement, to take upon me the payment of so large a Sum of money without first obtaining His Majesty's Sanction thereto, the more so, as it would be establishing a bad Precedent, which all the other Provinces might & doubtless would Claim the advantage of.

As Brigad^r. Gen^al. Forbes sets out to morrow for Philadelphia, he will on his arrival there correspond with you from thence & Concert measures with you for the relieving such of your Men as may be in Fort Cumberland, by a Number

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of those Your Assembly shall raise upon this occasion, or by Such others as he Shall Judge best for that Service

I am with great Regard

Sir

&c &ca

Governor Sharpe

Endorsed Copy | A Letter from Majr. Gen. | Abercromby to Govr. Sharpe | April 14th. 1758. – | 4. | in M. G. Abercromby's of April | 28: 1758

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Extract of a Letter from Govr. Lyttleton to The Earl of Loudoun. Dated Charles Town, March 21st. 1758.–

On the 10th Instant, Col^o. Byrd arrived here and deliver'd to me your Lordship's Letter of 13th. February; M^r. Atkin was not then here, nor is yet arrived, tho' hourly expected from North Carolina, and I immediately proceeded to take the necessary Measures, to enable Col^o. Byrd to go to Keawee, and to engage as large a Number of Indians in the intended Service as possible; to this End I first consulted with the Council, and then laid the Business by a Message, before the Assembly on the 17th. Inst. and on the 18th received their Answer, wherein they say, "The Design of the Legislature of this Province "in granting a large Sum of Money to raise a "Regiment, was, that 500. of them shou'd act in "the General Cause, and be subject to Lord Loudoun's "Command, and as the raising of a Regiment in "this Province, has been found impracticable, and "as His Lordship is so earnest, and thinks it "so essential and necessary to the Success of the "Operations of the ensuing Campaign, that a Party "of the said Indians shou'd be sent to Virginia. "We are willing that a Sum not exceeding Twenty

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"Thousand Pounds, to be taken out of the Money,
"provided to raise the said Regiment, and applied
"for encouraging and fitting out a Party of the
"said Indians to join His Majesty's Forces, and for
"defraying all Charges, that may be incident thereto,
"in doing which (in Our Opinion) the Intentions of
"the Legislature, in raising the said Regiment may
"be better answer'd and greater Advantages accrue
"to His Majesty's Service". —

Hereupon I have dispatched Lieut. Col.° Howarth, who is well acquainted with the Cherokees, and well versed in Indian Affairs, to the Nation with Instructions, to collect as large a Number of the Indians as possible, and bring them to Keowee, for which Place Col.° Byrd will set out without Delay. Before Col.° Howarth's Departure, I sent away a Messenger with Letters to the Commanding Officers of the Forts in the Nation, to apprise the Indians that Mr. Howarth was coming, and prevent any of them from going out in Parties, till His Arrival, having had Intelligence, that about 200. of them were lately gone out to War, and also to stop the little Carpenter, who I was informed, was preparing to set out for this Place, with several of His People; Mr. Howarth carries

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Talks, as well to the Nation in General, as to particular Head Men, and a Credit upon all the Traders and Storekeepers, and I hope Col: Byrd and he will prosper.

The Council were unanimously of Opinion that it wou'd tend exceedingly to the Good Success of the Business, that Mr. Howarth shou'd be empower'd to promise the Indians, a Reward as a Compensation for the Loss of their Hunts, upon their Return from the Campaign, vizt. the Value of 40. Weight of Leather, which for 1000. Men, it is estimated will amount to the Sum of £30.000. of this Money, or £4285.14.3 Sterling. I have accordingly authorised Mr. Howarth, to make them such a Promise, and in Consequence of the Power Your Lordship was pleased to give me, to draw upon You for the Money for this Service, I must beg Your Lordship will send me Bills of Exchange for the said Sum of £4285.14.3. payable to me or my Order in London, thirty Days after Sight; of which I shall negotiate as much as shall be necessary, according to the Number of Indians, that shall be entitled to receive the Reward, and either cancell or return to You the Remaining Bills, as Your Lordship shall think proper.

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I believe it may be proper, this sum shou'd be drawn in seperate Bills, as the whole Sum in one wou'd be too large to negotiate here, and Your Lordship will please to observe, that there must be more Setts of Bills than one, on Account of the Uncertainty of the Conveyance as well from New York here, as from hence to England, it being usual here in this Time of War, to draw five or Six Setts of Bills of Exchange upon England to be sent by different Vessells.– If the Promise Col^o. Howarth makes to the Indians is not performed, it will exceedingly embroil us with them, and have a very bad Effect upon Our Indian Affairs, and if I have not the Bills, the State of my own Private Affairs & those of the Province, will not permit me to make the Promise good.–

Endorsed Extract of a Letter from Govr. | Lyttleton to The Earl of Loudoun | dated March 21st 1758.– | 5. | in M: G: Abercromby's of April 28: | 1758.

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My Lord,

The Day after Your Lordship left New York to go to Hartford, I sailed from thence, and arrived here on the 11th of March, after a very bad Passage of 21. Days. I immediately waited on Governor Lyttleton with the Dispatches. He received me very politely, and assured me he wou'd do every Thing in his Power to forward the Business I came on. — He had just received a Letter from Mr Atkin dated at Willmington on Cape Fear, in which he told him he had been extreamly ill, but was recovering, and hoped next Day to be able to come Down Stairs, and in a Short Time to get to Charles Town; However, he is not yet come; neither wou'd he be able to undertake a Journey to Keawee if he was here. I apprehend all Difficulties with Regard to Him are removed by His Absence and Indisposition. The Indian Goods Your Lordship order'd to be deliver'd to Mr Atkin at New York were Shipped from thence by that Gentleman to His Correspondent here, as private Property; they are lodged in His House with His other Effects, & can by no Means be got at till he comes; however, if He was here, 'tis the Governor's Opinion & mine it wou'd delay the

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Expedition too long to wait till they could be carried to Keawees, which is generally the Work of a Month or five Weeks for loaded Waggons. The Distance is 300. Miles, the Road very sandy, and the Horses are the worst in the World; Therefore we judged it most adviseable to take what Goods it may be necessary to give in Presents to the Indians, to encourage them to go to the War, from the Government's Stores, and the Traders in the Nation. Mr. Lyttleton called His Council together, who made a Calculation what would be the Amount of the Value of the Goods, (supposing 1000. Indians might be got) at so much a Head as is usually given to each Man when sent out by the Government. They made out the Expence £40,000. Currency, which is £5714. 5. 3 Stg The Governor applied to the Assembly, which was then sitting, recommending to them to give all the Assistance in their Power on the Occasion. After many Disputes they agreed to appropriate, out of the £20,000. Stg. which they had before voted for raising a Regiment here. — Mr. Lyttleton will be more particular with Your Lordship on this Subject. I think he proposes to write to Your Lordship to desire Bills of Exchange may be sent to him, or Credit given him on

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C.O. 5:50

some Merchant here, to be made use of, if the Charge of fitting out the Indians, should exceed the Sum granted by the Assembly. As I imagine I shall not be so fortunate as to get more Savages to winchester, than the £20,000. will defray the Expences of, I must say I think Mr Lyttleton very early in His Application, and shall take the Liberty to desire Your Lordship, not to answer that Part of His Letter, till You receive my Letter from Keawee, that You may judge from the Number I am like to carry, whether or no there will be Occasion for that Credit. By Letters from the Commanding Officer in the Cherokee Nation I find many Parties of the Indians are gone, and others going out, some one Way, some another, and the Principal Man called the little Carpenter intended to set out for this Place in a few Days, I thought it proper to send an Express to lett them know, I was on my Way to deliver them a Talk, as they call it from Your Lordship & desired them to put of their Hunts till I saw them.–

The Govr. likewise thought proper to send Lt. Howarth of the Independents to every Town to invite all the Warriours to meet me at Keawee; I propose to sett out for that Place the Day

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C.O. 5:50

after tomorrow, and without an Accident shall get there on the 4th of April, and if the Indians are as pliable as I have Reason to think they will be, I make no Doubt of being at Winchester by the last of May. I hope Your Lordship will not think I staid here longer than was absolutely necessary; for till within these two Days, I did not know what Assistance I shou'd meet with from this Province, and I find it very difficult to procure Horses, and almost everything I have Occasion for. - I shall do myself the Honour to write to Your Lordship from Keawee, and inform You particularly what passes there. -

I have wrote to the President of Virginia to desire Him to lay in Provisions at Vaux's Fort and Augusta Court House on the Frontiers of that Colony, and shall let Him know as early as possible, what Quantity will be sufficient. As I fear'd I shou'd find it a hard Task to victual the Indians that come to Meet me at Keawee, I applied to Mr. Steade, who has taken proper Steps to supply me with Provisions

I am, My Lord,

Charles Town, So. Carolina &ca W. Byrd -

March 21st 1758. Copy

Endorsed Copy | a Letter from Mr. Byrd to | The Earl of Loudoun | March 21st 1758. - | 6. | in M: G: Abercromby's of April 28: | 1758

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C.O.5:50

Charlestown 25th. March 1758.

My Lord

After my last from Newbern, I was detained so long in No. Carolina by my Illness that I did not reach this place till the evening before the last, Govr. Lyttleton then deliverd to me Your Lordp's Commands dated 13 Febry brought from New York by Mr. Byrd, touching the engaging a large Body of Indians to serve in the next Campaign against the Enemy, The Governor informed me, that the Assembly had given £20.000. on this occasion for Indian Service, that Measures had been taken for Summoning a Meeting of the Cherokee Indians at Keowee, according to Your Directions, and for fitting them out to War &a.; that Mr. Byrd was to proceed the Next day upon his Journey to that Meeting.

I had while at Newbern in order to forward the Service of this Year, sent Passports for the Cherokees, and Catawbas also (according to the Regulation agreed on between me & those Indians in regard to their pretensions to a Reward for their Services) to Mr. Gist my Deputy in Virginia for managing Indian Parties at the Expence of that Colony, to be made use of at his own Discretion, according as he should find

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himself provided by that Colony with presents.
When I came through the Town of Wilmington upon Cape Fear River, a Person from Salisbury on the Atkin River in N. Carolina brought an account, "That in the first Week of this Month "he saw a very large Party of Catawbas (100 or "150) march thro that Town hastily to Virginia "with English Colours which I deliverd to the "Conductors appointed by me to distinguish such "parties and that they said a great many Chero=:kees were following. At this place I found a letter to me dated 6th Jan.ry at Chotee, one of the Overhill Cherokee Town, from Mr. John Watts whom I appointed a sworn Interpreter & Conductor at the expences of the Virginia Government, giving me an Acct, "That The Indians in those Towns "talked very much and Constantly of going with "him again to War at the Northward, that all "their Men would be returned from their Hunts "in about 10 Days, and as soon as ever they "should have disposed of their Deer Skins, they "would be ready to set out, wherefore he ex=:pected impatiently my orders

I had yesterday a Conference with Govr. Littleton & Mr. Byrd, when I offer'd to set out immediately to the Meeting of the Cherokees at

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Keowee, tho my horses had been reduced ex=
=treamly low in Condition and it was difficult
to provide others so Suddenly. But the Governor
as well as Mr Byrd thought it unnecessary
and were of opinion that a Letter from me
to the Chiefs, in Support of the Application
to them, and consistant with what had already
passed between us, under my official Seal
(which is the Mark established between me
and the Indians for Confidence in Messages &
Speeches deliverd to them) together with Such
Hints as I gave, woud be sufficient for the
present Purpose. And as the General Assembly
are to meet again on the 17th of next month,
I thought it would be for the Service, that I
should be then here upon the Spot, as well
as that I should go to Georgia, as soon as possible.
As Mr Byrd set out the same afternoon on
his Journey, I set up the whole past Night,
Writing the necessary Dispatches for him, and
which I forwarded after him this Morning by
an Express; Enclosed are Copies of my Letter
to Cunnicahtarkly the Cherokee Governor & his
Chief Men, and of my Letter to Mr Byrd for
Your Lordship's Perusal. I doubt whether those
of the Overhill Towns will come to Keowee tho'

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Summoned, if they know the occasion at it. And indeed I wish, that such of them as were inclined to go to the Northward this Season, may have proceeded directly from their own Towns, because they will save the Time and fatigue of going first 150 Miles to the Southward across a very Mountaineous country, and the same back again, being all so much extraordinary marching. Whereas The Direct way from their own Towns to Winchester is all plain and level, and they would also be the fitter for Action upon their Arrival, If those even of ye lower Towns were to march thro' their own Country, instead of thro' N^o Carolina, they would save a considerable Distance, Time and Expence.

As I write this in a hurry, in order to send by Col^o Bouquet, who is ready to sail for New York, I hope the brevity of this will be excused

I am My Lord

Your Lordship's

Most humble & obed^t Servant

(Signed) Edm^d Atkin

P: S: 1st April

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P: S: 1st April

Colo. Bouquet got on board The Transports in the Road early in the Morning after the foregoeing before it cou'd be deliver'd to him

This Day the Govr. hath received advice dated 20th of March, from the Commanding Officer at Fort Prince George Keowee; That all the Indians of ye Lower Cherokee Towns were gone to Virginia to War, but that 30 of the Estatoe Men had returned upon finding 2 White People killed by Some Indian or Indians And that the Indian Chiefs commonly called the little Carpenter (whose fidelity was suspected but who took Several french Scalps & prisoners) was got so far on his way down to this town, with many of his Warriours from the Overhill Towns.

I am ever Your Lordships

Your most obedt Servt.

(Signed) Edmd. Atkin

His Excellency The Earl of Loudoun

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Endorsed Copy / A Letter from Mr. Atkin to / The Earl of Loudoun / March 25th 1758. / 7. / in M: G: Abercromby's of April 28: / 1758

Journal of a Scout of Captn. Robt. Rogers.

March 10th. 1758:

This Day Set out On a Scout to march to the Neighbourhood of Carilong, in Company with Captn. Pringle, Lieut. Rouch, Ensn. Bellfore, three Voluntiers Vizt. Messrs. Creed, Kent, & Rightson, one Serjt. & one private all of His Majesty's twenty seventh Regiment: and a Detachment from His Majesty's four Companies of Rangers quartered in the Island near Fort Edward Vizt. Captn. Bulkley, Lt. Phillips, Lt. Moors, Lieut. Crafton, Lieut Campbell, Lt. Pottinger, Ensigns Ross, Wait, Mc. Donald, and White, and one hundred and Sixty four Men, Marched to the half way Brook on the Road towards Lake George & encamped there that Night, 11th. We proceeded as far as the first Narrows on Lake George, & encamped on the East Side of the Lake, & after dark Sent out a party three Miles fur-ther down to make discovery of any Enemies that Might be coming towards our Forts, the party returned without any Discovery, kept parties on the Lake walking all night besides Centrys at all necessary places on the Land; 12th. Began our March at Sun-rise & when we had distanced our En-campment three Miles, we Saw a dog run accross the Lake, Whereupon I sent a Detachment of the

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party to reconnoitre the Islands, thinking that the Indians might have laid an Ambush there for us, but they returned without discovering any further signs, upon which I thought it ex=
=pedient to put to shore and lay by till night, to prevent any partys of the Enemy that might be on the Hills or other places from discovering us, which I accordingly did, & halted the party at a place called Sabbath Day point, on the West Side of the Lake about 10 o'Clock, & kept them from going on the Lake the remaining part of the day, & sent parties out by land, to look down the lake with prospective Glasses which I had for that purpose, as soon as 'twas dark proceeded down the Lake, Sent Lt. Phillips with 15 Men as an advance Guard Some of whom went on Scates before him, Ensn. Ross with a party flanked us on our left under the West Shore, The Main Body I marched as Close as possible to prevent Seperation, in this Manner continued our March till within eight Miles of the french advance Guard, when Lt. Phillips sent a Man on Scates to desire Me to Halt, upon which I ordered my Men to Squat on the Ice, Lt. Phillips soon came to me himself, leaving his party to look out, & said that he imagined

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he had discovered a fire on the East Shore, but was not Certain, upon which I sent him with Ensn. White to go nearer and make a dis=cretional Discovery thereof, & to return as soon as they had effected the Same, in about an hour they returned, & said they were perswaded, that a party of the Enemy were encamped there, I called in the advance Guard, & put into the West Shore, & there hid our packs & Slays in a Thicket, leaving three Men with them, & marched the remainder to attack ye Enemy's Encampment if there, but when I came near the place, there were no fires to be seen, which made us conclude that it was some bleak patches of Snow, or pieces of Rotten Wood (which in ye Night resemble fire at a distance) thereupon we returned to our packs & there lay the remainder of ye Night without any fire. 13th In the Morning I had a Con=sultation with my officers how to proceed, who were of opinion that it was best to put on our Snow Shoes and go by land, least we should be discovered if we went farther on the Ice. We began our March about seven o Clock continued on the West Side of the Lake, keeping back of the Mountains that overlook ye french Advance Guards, I halted my party at 11 o Clock, two Miles West

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from the Advance Guard to refresh themselves & tarried there till 3 o'clock, that the Day Scouts from the forts might be returning home, before I went nearer, thinking to lay an Ambush to some of their roads in ye Night, & meet with them in the morning without being discovered, then marched in two divisns., Capn. Bulkley at the head of one, Myself at the head of ye other, Ensn. White & Wait brought up the rear, ye other Officers were fixed in each Division amongst the Men, in this Manner we marched on, one Mile & a half, when our Advance Parties discovered the Enemy, & immediately sent one back to inform me thereof, I sent the Messenger back again to see if they could ascertain the Number of Enemy, or near it, then ordered my Peoples to throw off their packs & prepare for the Enemy, which they immediately did, Some of ye Advance Party by this time came & acquainted me that they believed their number was one hundd., & were going on our left & would come within 15 Rods of My Party by the Course they then Steered, I ordered Ensn. Mc. Donnald to ye Comand of the Advance Guards, which as we face to the left made a flanking part

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to our Right, we gave the Enemy the first fire, upon which they retreated, My party pursued them & Scalped about forty Indians in about one quarter of an hour, We imagining the Enemy had been beat, Ensn. Mc Donald with his Advanced Party strove to head them that none might escape, but we soon found that the party we had engaged were only the Advance Guards of the Enemy, their Main body coming up in great numbers & joining them occasioned my Peoples retreating to their own Ground, where they stood & fought with ye greatest Intrepidity & bravery imaginable, in so much that in a very Short time, the Enemy were forced to retreat a second time, but being reinforced recovered their Ground, & a party of them having got round upon our Rear, were in possession of both our flanks as well as the Front but upon encourag'g my Men they soon beat of both the flanking parties and cause them to retreat to their main body with considerable Loss, When we had fought them in this Manner about three quarters of an hour, Lt. Phillips informed me that about 200 Indians were going up ye hill on our right to take possession

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C.O.5:50

of ye raising Ground upon our backs as he Supposed; whereupon I ordered him with 18 Men to take possession of the raising Ground before the Enemy, & try to beat them back, accordingly he went, but I being Suspicious that ye Enemy would go round on our left & take possession of the other part of the hill, I send L^t. Crafton with 15 Men to take possession of the Raising Ground there, & soon after desired Cap: Pringle to go with a few more men & assist Crafton, which he did with L^t. Rouch & 8 Men, But the Enemy pushed on so close in the front, that the partys were not more than 20 yards apart & oftentimes intermix'd with each other, The fire continued very hot for one hour & a half from the beginning of the Attack, in which time I lost 8 Officers & about 100 Mens from the Detachment killed on the Spot, the Enemy being so numerous that my party broke & about 20 of them run up the Hill to Phillips & Crafton where we Stopt & fired a Volley upon the Indians who were eagerly pursuing them, Seeing that I had not numbers sufficient to withstand them, Lieut^t. Phillips was at this time capitulating with them for himself

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Sloop Island six Miles North from fort Wm. Henry, tarried there that Night and the 15th. in the evening we arrived at fort Edward. The Number of the Enemy with whom we engaged according to the best Computation I was able to make, amounted at least to 700 Men of whom 600 were Indians. My party Officers included consisted of 183 all of whom both Officers & Men behaved with ye. utmost bravery & Coolness & in particular Lt. Moors & Ensn. Mc. Donald (whom I cant forbear mentiond here) altho mortally wounded in ye beginning of ye. Action, yet kept up their fire, and encouraged the Men so long as they lived. Capn. Bulkley, Lieuts. Campbell & Pottinger & Ensn. White were killed in the beginning of the fight, tho it did not in the least damp the Spirit of any of the party. Serjeants Tool, Falkinner, Willm. Clark, John Clark, & James Clark signalized themselves by their good behaviour during the whole Action; Ensn. Wait who was in the Rear Guard with 12 Men before the Action Commenced, attempted to join the Main body untill ten of his Men were killed on the Spot, & one wounded with whom he & the other Man made their Escape, Lt. Crafton got

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off with me in my party as also did Mr Creed the Volunteer, both of whom behaved exceeding well, I believe the Number of the Indians killed was about one hundred, & the Number wounded about the Same, here follows a List of the Killed & Missing of the Detachmt.

Of the 27th Regt.	Captn. Roger's Compy.	Capn. Wm. Stark's Compy
Captn. Pringle Prisonr.	Lieut. Moors Killed	Ensn. Ross killed
Lt. Roch Do.	Serjt. Pannil do.	Captn. Jno. Starks
Ensn. Bellfore Killed	36 private do. & missg	2 Serjeants &
Mr. Kent do.	Escaped the Captn.	14 Men Killed
Mr. Rightson missg	Ensign Wait,	Escaped
Serjt. Humphrey do.	4 Serjeants &	Lieut. Crafton &
1 private do.	16 Private	4 Men
Mr. Creed escaped	Capn. Bulkley's Compy.	Capn. Sheppards Compy
Captn. Jams. Roger's Compy.	Capn. Bulkley Killed	2 Serjts. & 16 Men
Ensn. McDonald, killed.	Lieut. Pottinger Do	Killed & missing
	Ensn. White, Do	Capn. Jona. Brewers Compy
	47 Men Do. & Missing	Lt. Campbell Killed

NB There escaped out of Capn. Bulkleys Company Seventeen Men, & out of Capn. Sheppard's Eight

The foregoing is is true an Account as I am able to recollect; Island near Fort Edward March 17th 1758

To Colo. Haviland (Signed) Robt. Rogers

Endorsed, Capt. Rogers's Journal. | March 17th 1758. | 8. | in M: G: Abercromby's of April 28: 1758

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C.O.5:50

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Distribution of Troops for the Siege of Louisbourg

Regiments	Colonels	Lieut. Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Chaplains	Adjutants	Qr. Masters	Surgeons	Mates	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Total of each Regiment Officers included
1st or Royal	..	1	1	8	21	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	883	989
15th Amherst's	1	1	1	7	18	9	1	1	1	1	1	36	18	900	996
17 Forbes's	1	1	1	8	10	9	1	1	1	1	1	30	20	690	775
22. Whitmore's	1	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	987	1093
28th Bragg's	..	1	1	8	10	9	1	1	1	1	1	30	20	682	766
40th Hopson's	1	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	842	948
15 Warburton's	..	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	825	930
47th Lascelles's	..	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	924	1029
48th Webb's	1	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	966	1072
58th Anstruther's	1	1	1	8	10	9	1	1	1	1	1	30	20	700	785
60th 2d Battn. Monckton's	1	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	988	1094
60th 3d Do. Lawrence's	1	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	977	1083
63d Fraser's	..	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	1039	1144
Do. 3 Additional Comps.	..	..	..	3	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	12	6	287	317
Royal Artill. Officers included	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	330	330
35th Detachment	..	1	1	6	16	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	16	779	864
Total	8	14	14	112	251	128	14	14	14	14	23	530	280	12799	14215

Rangers 600

A Company of Carpenters consisting of 90

Distribution of Troops for the Defence of Nova Scotia

Regiments	Colonels	Lieut. Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Chaplains	Adjutants	Qu.r Masters	Surgeons	Mates	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Total of Each Regiment Officers included
35th Otway's Detachm.t	..	..	..	2	4	1	..	..	..	..	1	8	4	195	215
43d Kennedy's	..	1	1	8	10	9	1	1	1	1	1	30	20	690	774
Total	.	1	1	10	14	10	1	1	1	1	2	38	24	885	989

Distribution of Troops to penetrate into Canada.

Regiments	Colonels	Lieut. Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Chaplains	Adjutants	Qu.r Masters	Surgeons	Mates	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Total of Each Regiment Officers included
27th Blakeney's	.	1	1	8	10	9	1	1	1	1	1	30	20	647	731
42 Lord John Murray's	..	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	981	1086
44th Abercrombie's	1	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	963	1069
46th Thomas Murray's	..	1	1	8	10	9	1	1	1	1	1	30	20	665	749
55 Lord Howe's	1	1	1	8	10	9	1	1	1	1	1	30	20	683	768
60th 1st Batt.n Detachment	1	..	1	5	12	6	1	1	1	1	1	24	12	555	621
60th 4th D.o Prevost's	1	1	1	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	951	1057
Artillery Officers included	.	..	.	..	.	..	..	..	.	..	.	.	..	189	189
Additional Comp.s 42 Reg.t Remainder not arrived	..	..	..	2	4	2	.	..	.	..	..	8	4	215	235
New York Indep.t Companies	..	..	.	4	11	..	..	2	.	1	2	12	8	340	379
Total	4	6	7	59	117	62	7	9	7	8	12	254	144	6189	6884

Provincials Voted but not yet raised

Viz.t	
New Hampshire	800
Massachusets	7000
Rhode Island	1000
Connecticut	5000
New York	2680
New Jerseys	1000
Total	17,480

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Distribution of Troops for Fort Du Quesne

Regiments	Colonels	Lieut. Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Chaplains	Adjutants	Qur. Masters	Surgeons	Mates	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Total of Each Regiment Officers included
60th Stanwix's Detachm.	.	1	.	3	8	3	.	.	.	.	1	16	8	354	394
62 Montgomery's	.	1	2	8	20	9	1	1	1	1	2	40	20	1010	1116
Additional Compy. Do.	..	..	..	3	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	12	6	274	304
Royal Artill. Officers included	.	.	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	.	.	..	40	40
Total	.	2	2	14	34	15	1	1	1	1	3	68	34	1678	1854

Provincials 5,000

James Abercromby

New York 28th April 1758

Recapitulation	Total of Each
Troops for Louisbourg	14,215
Rangers	600
Company of Carpenters	90
	14,905
Troops for Canada	6,884
Provincials	17,480
	24,364
Troops for Nova Scotia	989
Troops for Fort Du Quesne	1,854
Provincials	5,000
	6,854
Total	47,112

Endorsed Distribution of his Majesty's | Forces in North America | for the Campaign 1758 | according to the Returns of | 24th February 1758. | 10. | in M: G: Abercromby's of April 28: | 1758.

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New York 28 April 1758.

Sir,

This Letter will be presented to you by Mr. Johnston lately one of the Deputy Paymasters General to His Majesty's Forces in North-America. He is superseded in that Office, & by what he tells me there is reason to expect some mis-representations have been successful against him. From his Character in general, & from what I know of it in particular, I can with truth assure you, that he has sustain'd his late Employment here, with diligence, Skill & Integrity. Convinced as I am that he hath been a faithful Servant to the Crown, in justice to him I think it is my Duty to give him this Testimony, & to beg that You will be pleased to take him under your Protection.

I have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient

&

most humble Servant

James Abercromby

To The Rt. Honble William Pitt Esqr. &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: New York. April 28th. 1758 | Majr. Genl. Abercromby | R/ June 1st. by Mr. Johnson. | recommendg. Mr. Johnson.

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Albany. May 22d. 1758.

Sir.

His Majesty's Ship the Hampshire, by which I had the Honor to write to you the 28th. of last Month, did not sail from the Hook till the 3d. Instant, when the Embarkation for Halifax, from this Port, got likewise under Way; but I have hitherto had no Advice, either of these, or those from Philadelphia, (who fell down the Delaware on the 23d.) being arrived; By Letters from Govr. Pownall, Brigr. Gen. Laurence, with His Battalion of Royal Americans, and the Battalion of Highlanders, commanded by Colo. Fraser, got safe into Halifax, the 28th. of April.—

Contrary Winds having detained the Hampshire so many Days, and she having the Mail on board, by which Means she served the End of a Packet, I changed my Resolution of dispatching one so soon as I proposed in my last, that I might have an Opportunity of informing you the better, with the State of Affairs in these Parts from the Spot itself; accordingly I embarked the 7th., and got here the 11th. in the Afternoon: But before I proceed, I must resume my Narrative of Provincial Affairs, in which I shall follow

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the Rule I observed in my last, of distinguish-ing & seperating each Government under different and distinct Heads, and begin where I before left off with each.-

New York has since compleated her Levies; four of their Companies came away at the same Time with me, and are arrived; the Remainder, I am told, are in Motion, so that we may expect them all in here soon.-

The 2d Instant, I received a Letter from the President of the Council of the Jerseys, acquainting me, that their Regiment was compleat, and the Necessaries, with which the Colony is to furnish them, in great For-wardness; but that he had not been able to find any firelocks among them, and therefore entreated, I wou'd furnish their Regiment with Royal Arms.- Conscious, that that Province cou'd not be so bare of Arms, and not having it in my Power to supply them, unless those that were to be sent from England arrived speedily, I wrote him my Sentiments thereupon, & repeated to Him His Majesty's Orders, for collecting & putting into Repair, all such serviceabe Arms as were to be found within that Province, that they

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might be employ'd, as far as they wou'd go, in the present Exigency, and that I wou'd make up the Deficiency out of the Royal Arms. And that as their Regiment was compleated, and the Necessaries with which the Colony was to furnish them, were in such great Forwardness, I desired he wou'd hasten their Equipment, and forthwith order them to Albany, the Place of Rendezvous; but, from that Time to this, I have not heard from Mr. President Reading. –

Having been informed, by one of the Assembly Men of the Colony of Connecticut, that their Levies went on but slow, and that there was no Likelihoods of their compleating them, unless their Assembly wou'd follow the Example of some of the other Governments, in passing an Act for impressing Men out of their Militia, I immediately wrote to Govr. Fitch, recommending this Measure to him; in Answer to which, he tells me, in his Letter of the 4th. of this Month, "I shall take the first Opportunity "of laying the Matter, with the Reasons offer'd "before the Assembly, which is to sit next Week, "how far the Assembly will go in this Method "is uncertain." Meanwhile, I have since directed

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him, to order such of the Troops of His Colony, as were already raised, to join me forthwith.

I can give You no further Account, of what has been done at Rhode Island & New Hampshire, than what You have in my last; since when, I am without any Letters from those two Governors; but I have wrote to them, and given Directions for the immediate Marching their Troops to this Place, and Fort Edward.–

The Gov.r of the Massachusetts Bay last Letter to me, is of the 7th Instant, by which he acquaints me, that he will issue Orders to the Regiments to march; that those of the County of York & Barnstable are to come by Water; that the Transports are ready and they will embark immediately; He further tells me, that tho' the General Assembly made Provision for Seven Regiments only, yet out of the 7000, he has formed a Battalion of light Infantry or Rangers, to consist of 500. Men, to be commanded by Col.o Oliver Patridge, one of the very first Men of that Country, whose Character, & the Service he may be of to me, in dealing with their People, he will make me acquainted with. This is not the

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only Good Thing Gov.r Pownall has exerted himself in upon this Occasion; He has entirely abolished from among the Troops of His Province, the prevailing Custom of every Captain being a Slop Seller, & Suttler, which proved not only a Disgrace but Ruin to the Provincial Troops; and in Order that the Men might be properly supplied with every Thing, he has directed, that each Regiment, upon it's own Credit, buy a certain Quantity of Necessaries, and fix a certain Price on them, & that they be deliver'd over to the Quarter Master, to issue them as they may be wanted; He has also appointed a Suttler to each Regiment; wherefore, he begs of me to call a Court Martial, & break every Officer who shall be convicted of Suttling; He has likewise put an entire Stop to all Committees and Commissaries of War, which formerly were so many Clogs, Delays, and Obstructions to the Service; in Short, he has made several other wise and necessary Regulations, for the better Management of their Troops, for which I cannot sufficiently commend him, & therefore in Justice to him, I cou'd not pass them in Silence.—

I am sorry to tell You, that I am

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under the Greatest Difficulties imaginable for Want of Arms; not only by Reason of the real Want of them, but because the Provinces, knowing my distress, make a Handle of it, to retard their Troops from joining me; alledging, that Men without Arms can be of no Service; wherefore, I have been obliged to direct them to impress Arms; but how far they will comply with this so necessary & unavoidable Measure, I will not venture to say, and yet, if they do not, and the Arms from England arrive not speedily, I shall be at the greatest Loss, for, those we have been able to get by Purchase at Boston & New York amount to a very inconsiderable Number.–

The Want of Tents is another Excuse the Colony of Connecticut would avail themselves of, for not yet putting their Troops in Motion; to prevent which, I have order'd a Number to be made up at New York, & untill these can be got ready, I intend to supply them with some from the Regulars; therefore I have wrote to Governor Fitch, not to retard their coming by any Means.–

This, Sir, is our present Situation, with Regard to the Northern Provinces; what those

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to the Southward have done, I leave to Brigr. Gen. Forbes to acquaint You of; And now I shall proceed with the Detail of what I have done, since my last, prior to my Departure for this Place.—

The first thing I did, was, to move up the four New York Independent Companies, which, for the better recruiting of them, had been quarter'd to the Southward.—

After that followed the 44th. Major General Abercromby's Regiment, from the Jerseys, in the Sloops that had brought down the 17th. & 22d Regiments from Albany.—

Next to them, I embarked nine Companies of the 4th Battalion of Royal Americans, that had been in Garrison at New York during the Winter, and cou'd not be removed any sooner, by Reason of their having been daily employ'd as Labourers, in embarking the Battering Train, Artillery Stores, &ca. for Halifax, which has been a great Saving to the Publick; upon which Principle, I have left the Remaining Company with Brigr. Gen. Stanwix, to unload the Ship with Ordnances Stores expected from Europe, as well as to take Charge of the same and escort them here.—

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Upon Major Tulleken's Arrival, with the Six Companies of the 1st Battalion of Royal Americans, at Elizabeth Town in the Jerseys, from Lancaster, I embarked them also for this Place; where they landed about the same Time with me.–

All the other Corps, destined for the Operations of this Quarter, vizt. the 27th. Lord Blakeney's; the 42d. Lord John Murray's; the 46th. Lieut. General Thomas Murray's; & the 55th. Lord Howe's, had remained at Fort Edward, the several Posts on the Mohawk River, Schenectady, and this Place the Whole Winter.–

Before I quitted New York, I sent Directions to Lord Howe, to forward Provisions and Stores up the Hudsons River, as soon as the same was practicable; and upon my Arrival, I found that one Convoy was set out, and since that, I have forwarded several more, which altogether, makes ten Weeks Provisions for 20,000. Men; and posted the Troops at the most convenient Places, on this River, for the Protection of the said Provisions, as well as for expediting the Batteaus, the Navigation in different Places being very difficult, and requiring hard Labour to work them up against the Stream and over

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the Rifts; in Order to profit as much as possible of the Water Carriage; notwithstanding of which, we have at the highest Water, three Portages be=:tween Fort Edward & this, whereof one is at Times Six Miles in Length, but never less than three, this is at the Rifts between the Half moon & Still Water; the next is upwards of two Miles above Saratoga; and the last Five Miles higher, opposite to a Place called, in the Map, Fort Miller, which, some Years ago, was a Provincial Intrenchment; the first of these, is near three Quarters of a Mile long, and the other only 400 Yards; from this last Portage, the Navi-:gation is tolerable good to Fort Edward, whither all possible Diligence shall be used, to transport the Artillery, Ordnance Stores and Provisions; but as these, from the Accidents Batteaus are Subject to, cannot all be trusted to this Con-:veyance, especially the Powder, Biscuit & Rice, I have therefore engaged 300. Oxteams, and all the Waggons that can be procured in the three upper Counties of this Province, all which will be wanted to carry the Batteaus, as well as every other Requisite, from Fort Edward to Lake George, which is 14. Miles; This Road, as well as that from hence to Fort Edward, will

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require great Repairs. from the melting of the vast Quantity of Snow, which together with the heavy Rains that have succeeded it, have overflowed the Country, carried off the Bridges, & broke up the Roads, which at present, em=ploys the greatest Part of the Troops in re=pairing the Same. –

Lord Loudoun, having acquainted You in February last, that as great Numbers of Boats wou'd be wanted, for carrying into Exe=cution the Plan he then proposed, he had order'd them to be built, and had appointed Capt. Bradstreet, to take the Charge of those for the Lakes, & to provide the Batteau Men for them; And as in Pursuance of these Directions, Lieut Col.o Bradstreet had collected the Materials, as well as the Carpenters, and had greatly forwarded this Work, by the Time that I received His Majesty's Commands for that Purpose, It was thought most for the King's Service, that Lieut. Cols. Bradstreet, who himself likewise desired it, shou'd finish the Work he had begun; to which I yielded the Readier, as he declared himself by far better Qualified for this Business, than that of Deputy Quartermaster General, with which Commission

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His Majesty had honored him; especially, as he was an utter Stranger to the Country allotted for His Department, having never been beyond Philadelphia: Whereupon I immediately appointed Sir John St. Clair, to the Southern District, who, from His having served there under Mr. Braddock, is not only acquainted with the Country, but also with the People in it, which must facilitate Matters greatly, & render him of much more Service to Brigr. Gen. Forbes, than Lieut. Colo. Bradstreet possibly cou'd have been.—

By this Alteration, which I hope will meet with His Majesty's Approbation, it became necessary for me to continue Captain Christie, Assistant Deputy Quartermaster General to the Troops under my immediate Command, in which Capacity, he has served ever since the Year 1756, and, from his Experience, Activity, and Knowledge of this Country, is the most fit of any I cou'd pitch upon.

Having had no Notification, of any Person being appointed by His Majesty, to act as Deputy Quartermaster General, to the Troops employ'd to the Eastward, and Major Robertson, of the 2d Battalion of the Royal Americans, having acted

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as such all last Year, both at Halifax & here, I have again sent him thither in that Capacity.-

The several Departments of Deputy Quarter=master General, being thus settled, Lieut. Col.° Bradstreet proceeded with all Dispatch, in building & expediting a proper Number of Batteaus, of which I have the Satisfaction to acquaint You, that there are now 1500.; Nine Hundred of them quite finished, and the Re=mainder likewise so, all to caulking, which we have been prevented from doing, thro' the constant Rains that have fallen for these Eight or Ten Days past; as the above whole Number will, I apprehend be sufficient, I have stopt the building any More: But I am sorry to tell You, that we are very deficient in Batteau Men; of the 800. Lieut. Col.° Bradstreet had engaged to raise, he has only about 450, and I have not been able to get more than 400.; owing to the great Bounties given by the Respective Provinces; but as all these, except Connecticut, are now nearly compleated, I am in Hopes we shall meet with better Success, and that nothing may prevent it on my Side, I have published an Advertisement in the New York Papers, by which

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I offer, as an Encouragement, to all such as will voluntarily enter into this Service, a further Con=
=sideration of 2s/- New York Currency, travelling Charges, for every Twenty Miles, over and above their Pay; And as I had learned, that there were a great Number of Batteau Men along the Mohawk River, I applied to the Lieut. Governor for a Warrant, empowering Lieut. Colo. Bradstreet, to impress the Same, which he immediately granted, and Circular Letters, in Consequence of it, have been wrote to the Respective Justices; but hitherto little Benefit has arisen to us from it; nor can we expect any, as long as this Country is suffer'd to remain without any Police.

The next Step I mean to take, to remove the Inconveniences & Delays, that must necessarily arise from this Deficiency of Batteau Men, is to employ as such, those of the Provincial Troops as are most fit for, and have formerly been in, that Service, which I hear are many; and in Order to encourage them to discharge their Duty, with Readiness and Alertness, and to make them some Recompence for the Tear & Wear of their Cloaths, I propose to make up their Pay to that of the Batteau Men, which is 3s/. New York Currency per Day. Those of New York, which

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are the only Provincials that have yet joined me, are, jointly with the Regulars, already employ'd in this Service.

So few Batteaus remaining to be finished, and the Expence of the Carpenters, both for their Pay & Provisions, being very heavy, I have order'd them to be discharged, all to the Number that will be requisite for building two Vessels for the Lake, the one of fourteen the other of Ten Guns, the Naval Stores for which, Capt Loring is gone to provide at New York, and they shall be set about, as soon as we can take Post on that Lake. –

This brings me to account to you, for the Manner in which I disposed of that Gentleman, after it had been judged proper to continue Lieut. Col.o Bradstreet in the building and expediting the Batteaus. –

Capt. Loring landed at York the 4th. of March, whence he forwarded Your Dispatches to me by Express; some Days after, he followed them himself; and on His Second Days Journey, met with me on the Road, in my Way to York, where I arrived the 13th. & brought him back with me, as he cou'd at that Time be of no Manner of Use at Albany; but,

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that he might not lye still, as I was directed to take up a Number of Transports, for which an Agent was necessary, he being *au fait* of that Service, and none having come out, I sent him in that Capacity to Boston, where he took up and prepared, the Number of Transports necessary for the Embarkation from that Place; & after having finished and settled his Accounts for that Service, he, by my Directions, set out for this, & arrived here a few Days before me.

Capt. Loring having very ingenuously own'd to me, and indeed I must say with Truth, that he was not capable of Commanding so large a Body of Batteaumen, as we shall have Occasion for, I have again been obliged to leave this Charge to Lieut. Col. Bradstreet, who, from His former Experience of them, knows best how to deal with them, which is no easy Task, for, they are an unweildy & unruly Set. This has further made it necessary, for me to continue Capt. Christie Deputy Quartermaster General, as it is not to be expected, that Lieutenant Colonel Bradstreet, cou'd, with any Propriety, act in both Capacities at the same Time, without Running a Risk of impeding the Service, which I cou'd by no Means think of.—

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Under these Circumstances, Capt. Loring will only have the Building and expediting the two above Vessels; from whence he will be able to get them finished so much sooner; and when that is done, he is to have the Chief Command of them, together with such a Number of small Craft as he shall require; and as Officers and Seamen are necessary, to command & navigate these Vessells, I have given him In-structions to raise them at New York, at as easy Rates as possible.

Upon my Arrival here, I was informed, that a Scalping Party of about 80. Indians, had made an Inroad on the German Flatts, and had scalped 32. Inhabitants; this Party, I find, came from Oswegatchie, undiscover'd by the Command we have at Herkermer's, our uppermost Post on the Mohawk River; Lord Howe, who then commanded here, immediately order'd up the 46th Regiment, in Garrison at Schenectady, & Sir William Johnson likewise moved up with a Part of the Militia, but before either of them cou'd reach Fort Hunter, they received Intelligence of the Enemy having retired; A Party of Our Rangers, Stationed at Herkermer's, having likewise turned out

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upon the Alarm, had the good Luck to fall in with their Leader (which they scalped) who proved to be an Onondaga, that had removed to Oswegatchie, and had resided there for some Years past.—

Our Scouts, who are constantly Ranging the Woods towards Tienderoga & Crown Point, to watch the Motions of the Enemy, & to do them as much Mischief as they can, have of late brought in 8 Scalps & 15. Prisoners; by which latter we were in Hopes of gaining some Intelligence, but they cou'd not give us any, as at the Time they were taken (which is about 4. Weeks ago) they say no boats had come to them this Spring, from Canada, altho' the Lake was open.—

The furnishing so many Provincial Officers with Provisions, in the same Proportion & Manner as was done to the King's Forces; & the Transportation of so great a Quantity, as wou'd be necessary, if that Proportion had subsisted, being attended not only with a very great Expence, but likewise several Inconveniencies & Difficulties, I therefore thought it proper to reduce that Proportion, from what it was before, to only one Ration per Day

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to each Officer, of what Rank or Denomi-
-nation soever; and, that the Provincial Officers might have no Room to complain, I gave it out in Publick Orders, that this Rule & Proportion, so settled by me, was to be observed among all the Troops throughout the Continent, and to take Place, from the respective Times of Embarkation, for those that are employ'd to the Eastward, & from the 14th of May, for those that serve on this Side, & to the Southward. — This will not only be a very great Saving to the Publick, but will likewise remove the Dif-
-ficulties, nay, I may say Impracticability, of getting thro' the Woods with such an Incumbrance; I must at the same Time beg leave to observe to You, that as the Reasons, which have moved me to make this Regulation, must subside with the Breaking up of the Campaign, & that the Officers of the Regular National Troops, expect to be reinstated into their former Allowance, so soon as they quit the Field to go into Winter Quarters, I do propose to recall my Orders, & to let the Proportion established before I issued them, subsist & take Place again, unless His

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Majesty shou'd judge proper to order me to the contrary; which I dare hope will not be, as I cannot help owning, that I do think that Proportion moderate, & that, in many Places where the Troops must be quarter'd in the Winter, the Officers cannot do with less.—

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient, and
most Humble Servant
James Abercromby

The Right Honble William Pitt Esqr.

Endorsed, Albany May 22d. 1758. | Majr. Genl. Abercromby. | Rf July 3d.

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Indian Affairs

Albany, May 24th 1758.

Sir

As it is proper, that You should be in=formed of the State of His Majesty's Indian Affairs, & that I have not yet been able to give You any Account of them, I shall now make this Letter the Sole Subject of them; and, that You may want for no Information on that Head, from Me, as far as the Same has come to my Knowledge, or lest I might, un=willingly, misrepresent them, I think it neces=sary to transmit You, Copies and Extracts of all such Letters as have passed between Sir William Johnson, Govr. Denny, & Me, upon this Occasion, together with the Informations & Intelli=gence accompanying the Same; From whence You will see, that Teedyuscung, the Chief of the Dela=wares, & several of those Tribes of Indians, who made Incursions on the Frontiers of Pensylvania and Maryland, were turning fast on our Side; That some of the Twightwee Tribes, and of the far Nations over the Lakes, were of the same Mind; and, that they were all desirous of joining His Majesty's Army against the French; previous to which, they proposed a Treaty of

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Peace, which the Assembly of Philadelphia, in Order that they might carry their projected & favorite Plan of Trade with them, the easier into Execution, wanted by all Means to draw the Governor in; but he very wisely rejected it, untill such Time as he cou'd have Sir William Johnson & my Opinion thereupon; & for that Purpose, transmitted to me Copy of the Minutes of the Conference between him and some of the Delawares, which I forwarded to Sir William, desiring him, if it was necessary, immediately to send Mr. Croghan, his Deputy, to Philadelphia, to treat with these People, in His Name, & further, that he wou'd let me have his Answer with all possible Dispatch; Meanwhile I wrote to Govr. Denny, acquainting him there-with, and advising him not to disgust those Indians, nor, at the same Time, to conclude any Thing with them, till we received this Answer.— On the 13th of April, Sr. William writ to me, that he shou'd send Mr. Croghan, so soon as he returned from the German Flatts, & that in the Interim, Govr. Denny shoud lose no Time in sending Invitations, to such of the Indians as were inclined to Peace, to come to Philadelphia.— As soon as this Letter came to

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my Hands, I sent an Extract of it to Brigadier General Forbes, for him to lay before Governor Denny; As I did likewise afterwards, Copy of Sr. William's first Letter of the 28th of the same Month, containing His Opinion of Teedyuscung, and his Advice with Regard to the Measures necessary, and proper to be observed upon this Occasion; all which are so full and explicit, and appear so just to me, that I desired Brigadier Forbes to receive them for His Guidance; what has been done in this Affair since, I know not, but I make no Doubt, You will learn it from the Brigadier Himself.

As by Sir William Johnson's second Letter of the 28th of April, I found he was invited to attend an approaching Congress at Onondaga, which Congress he thought, there was great Reason to believe, wou'd be of very great Importance, and he hoped, productive of Events which might be highly favourable to His Majesty's Service & the Interest of these Colonies, I waited to see the Result of this Meeting; but, upon my Arrival here, having been informed, that the Enemy had made another Inroad at Herkermer's on the German Flatts, which had obliged Sir William (who was on his Road to Onondaga)

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to return; and it being necessary, that I shou'd see him, in Order to learn from Himself, how the Six Nations stood affected to His Majesty's Interest; how far they might be depended upon; & what Aid and Assistance we might Expect from them upon this Occasion; I accordingly wrote to him, to come down to me here, which he did; And upon my putting the foregoing Questions to him, and desiring a candid and impartial Report of the Present State of His Majesty's Indian Interest, relative to the Six Nations and the Indians of the Northern District, he deliver'd me the Enclosed Report, by which you will see, that untill the Congress of Onondaga broke up, he looks upon His Majesty's Indian Interest to be in a State of Suspence; And upon my asking Sir William, how much longer it wou'd continue assembled, he said, he believed it might be some Weeks.

Sir William Johnson being desirous, for the Security of the Mohawk River, to have a Company of Rangers, and having recommended, upon His Knowledge of them, one Hundred able bodied active Young men every Way fit for that Service, and well acquainted with every Part of that Country, from their having been frequently out with

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the Militia, and ranged the Woods, I have agreed that he shou'd raise, and form them into a Company, upon the same Establishment, as His Majesty's other Rangers; but in Order not to put the Publick to any greater Expence, than is necessary, I have directed the four Officers, who were appointed by Lord Loudoun to the Command of four Indian Companies in 1756., and are on His Majesty's Pay, tho' not at present employ'd, by Reason of the Inactivity of the Indians, to be appointed to that Company; by which Means the Expences of it, will amount to no more than the bare Subsistence of the Men. –

And upon a Complaint, from Sir William, of the infinite Detriment arising to His Majesty's Indian Interest, from the Constant pernicious Practice of furnishing the Indians with Rum, notwithstanding the Provincial Penal Laws existing to the Contrary; And therefore desiring I wou'd interpose my Authority; I have accordingly published a Proclamation, and sent Orders to the different Posts on the Mohawk River, to seize and stave every Drop of it, that shou'd be attempted to be brought thither; from whence I hope soon to see this Nuisance re=moved. –

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Having searched my Papers, and found the Plan for opening & reestablishing a Trade in the Country of the Six Nations, mentioned in Sr. William Johnson's second Letter of the 28th. of April, I have order'd it to be transcribed, and You will receive a Copy of it herewith.-

I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient, &
most humble Servant
James Abercromby

The Right Honble William Pitt Esqr.-

Endorsed Albany. May 24th. 1758. | Majr. Genl. Abercromby. | R/ July 3d. | Indian Affairs

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Schedule of Papers, enclosed, and referr'd to, in Major General Abercromby's Letter to the Right Honorable William Pitt Esqr. relative to Indian Affairs; Dated, Albany, May 4th 1758.–

1. Extract of a Letter from Govr. Denny to Major General Abercromby, dated, March 24th 1758.–
2. Conferences between the Govr. of Pensylvania and Teedyuscung, in March 1758. enclosed in the foregoing Letter.–
3. Message to the Governor from the Assembly, March 24th 1758. enclosed in Do.–
4. Extract of a Letter from Majr. Gen. Abercromby to Govr. Denny, dated April 1st 1758.–
5. Do. . . . . to Sr. William Johnson, . . . April 4th 1758.–
6. A Letter from Govr. Denny to M. G. Abercromby, April 7th 1758.–
7. Do. . . . . . . to Col. Washington or the Commanding Officer of the Virginia Forces, at Winchester, March 25th 1758. enclosed in the foregoing Letter.–
8. Letter from Capt. Bullet, Commanding Officer at Fort Loudoun in Virginia to Govr. Denny, March 31st 1758. enclosed in Do.–
9. Proceedings of a Council of Officers held at Fort Loudoun in Virginia, respecting a Proposal of Peace offer'd by Teedyuscung and other

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Delaware Indians to the Cherokees, March 30th 1758. enclosed in Do. _

10. A Letter from Capt. Orndt to Lt. Colo. Burd, March 29th 1758. enclosed in Do. _

11. A Letter from Lt. Colo. Burd to Govr. Denny, April 3d 1758. enclosed in Do. _

12. Extract of a Letter from Majr. Gen. Abercromby to to Govr. Denny, dated, April 10th 1758. _

13. Letter from Majr. Gen. Abercromby to Sr. William Johnson, April 10th 1758. _

14. Extract of a Letter from Sr. William Johnson to Majr. Gen. Abercromby, dated, April 13th 1758. _

15. Do. .... from Govr. Denny to Do. dated, Apl. 16. 1758. _

16. Letter from Capt. Thomson to Lt. Colo. Armstrong Apl. 9th 1758. enclosed in the foregoing. _

17. Do. from Lt. Colo. Armstrong to Govr. Denny, Apl. 11th 1758. enclosed in Do. _

18. Extract of a Letter from M. G. Abercromby to Govr. Denny, dated, April 20th 1758. _

19. Difficulties that would arise by putting the Trade of Oswego, into the Hands of the Crown, or by granting a Patent to a Joint Company, Novr. 10th 1756. _

20. Letter from Sr. William Johnson to M. G. Abercromby No. 1. April 28th 1758. _

21. Intelligence from a Seneca Sachem, enclosed in the foregoing.

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22. Letter from Sr. William Johnson to M. G. Abercromby
No. 2. April 28th 1758. –

23. Invitation of the 6. Nations to Sr. William Johnson, to attend the Congress at Onondaga, enclosed in the foregoing. –

24. Message from the Quakers of Pennsylvania to the 6. Nations, enclosed in Do. –

25. Report of the present State of His Majesty's Indian Interest, relative to the 6. Nations, & the Indians of the Northern District; by Sir William Johnson. –

Endorsed Schedule of the Papers enclosed | and referred to in M. General | Abercromby's Letter to the Right | Honble. William Pitt, Esquire, | relative to Indian Affairs. | Dated, Albany, May 24th. 1758. –

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Extract of a Letter from Govr Denney to Maj.^r Gen. Abercromby, Dated, Philadelphia, March 24th 1758.—

Sir,

On the 15th of last Month, Ten Delaware Indians arrived at Fort Augusta, and acquainted the Commanding Officer, that they were Messengers of Good News, and came from the Ohio, by the Way of Diahoga. An heavy Snow detained them there some Time, and when it abated, they proceeded to this City, calling in their Way on Teedyuscung, the Delaware Chief, who, since The last Treaty at Easton, has chiefly resided at Bethlehem, among the Moravian Brethren.—

The enclosed Minutes will shew You what has passed in Publick; I am under a great Disadvantage for Want of a Delaware Interpreter, being obliged to depend on such as Teedyuscung brings along with him, and they are none of the best; for they are Natives of West Jersey, have lived there from their Infancy, and are entirely unacquainted with Forreign Indians, & their Customs. All I can learn of their Story, by private Conversation, is, that several of those Tribes of Indians, who made Incursions on these Provinces, are turning fast on Our Side, and that some of

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the Twightwee Tribes and of the far Nations over the Lakes are of the same Mind. That the well disposed of these several Nations have sent these Messengers privately off, to acquaint this Government of their Dispositions; and the Messengers say, that as their belts have been well received, they are certain these Indians will join the King's Army against the French, and send them back to tell us so. This is important News, and may be improved to gain their Assistance in the ensuing Campaign. For Want of more particular Information, as to the Characters & Numbers of the Persons who sent these Messengers, it has been thought advisable only to deal in Generals, and wait to see what further Accounts the Messengers, who say positively they are to return immediately, will bring us. Then & not till then, it will be proper to make them Proposals to join the King's Forces. You will please to transfer Copies of these Minutes to Sir William Johnson.

As these Indians are at a very Great Distance from Sr. William's Residence, living far to the West of the Ohio, they may with more convenience apply here, and be more readily brought into His Majesty's Friendship and Alliance; And on this Consideration, I hope what has been done

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will meet with Approbation. It would give me a very great Pleasure to contribute to the Regaining of the Indians, and on this and every other Occasion, to receive Advice from the Commander in Chief and His Majesty's Agent for Indian Affairs.—

You will observe by the enclosed Message of the Assembly, that after perusing the Minutes of these Conferences, which I laid before them, they have, in pretty warm Terms, advised me, to invite some of the Chiefs of these Indians to this City, in Order to confirm them in their Friendship; but I did not chuse to do this, Lest the Indians, from whom these Belts came, shou'd be the same as went lately to Onondaga, and with whom Sr. William Johnson was to have had a Meeting but was prevented by an Account, that the French and Indians were Marching, to cut off the German Flatts. It may be of great Use to make the Invitation, as we can no otherways know with Certainty their Characters, Strength, Number and Dispositions, and be able to concert Matters with them; but as this may interfere with Sir William Johnson's, or Your, Measures, I shall not do it unless You approve, & will be pleased to favour me with Your Commands.—

(Signed) William Denny.—

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A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.—

May it Please Your Honour,

We beg leave to observe, that by the Minutes of the Conferences with the Indians laid before us from time to time since the Treaty of Easton, It does not appear that any Effectual Measures have been taken to recover our fellow Subjects from the Captivity they are under with the Indians with whom a Treaty of Peace has been long since concluded; nor even to remind them of their engagements to restore them. We therefore think it our Duty to recommend it to your Honour, before the Indians Depart from this City, to make some enquiry after the Captives and to take such Measures as shall be most likely to restore them to their Country, Families and Friends. We also think it absolutely Necessary for the wellfare of this Province and the promotion of his Majestys Indian Interest in America, that a Friendly and kind invitation should be given to the Chiefs of each of the Eight Tribes of Indians, that have by a late Messenger shown an inclination to enter into an Alliance with his Majesty, and take up arms against his Enemies, that some of them woud when it was convenient

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to them, take an opportunity of Visiting this Government, and further Ratifying the great work of Peace so happily begun, and now almost perfected,

The Good Effects this Province hath already felt and his Majestys Interest in general is likely to receive from the late Conferences with them are such proofs of the Good Policy of such an Invitation, that we hope we need not add anything further to enforce it.

Signed by Order of the House

Thos. Leech, Speaker.

24th. March 1758.

Copy

Endorsed Copy | 24th March 1758.| Message to the Governor | from the Assembly.| Enclosed in Govr. Denny's of this day | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 | 3.

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Extract of a Letter from Majr. Gen. Abercromby to Govr. Denny,

Dated, April 1st 1758.—

Sir/

As I am but lately enter'd on the Command His Majesty has honour'd me with, I cannot be so thoroughly versed in Indian Affairs, as to give any Directions upon this Occasion, without consulting with Sir William Johnson, who, by His Majesty's Commission is appointed Sole Agent and Superintendant of the Northern Indians; In Consequence of which, I have, by Express, transmitted to him the Minutes enclosed in Yours, and have pressed him to detain the Messenger no longer, than is necessary to frame His Answer; which so soon as it comes to my Hands, I shall forward to You without Delay; Meanwhile, as it is very important to encourage the Indians to pursue their Proposal of joining us against His Majesty's Enemies, I wou'd have You to use Your utmost to continue them in that favourable Disposition, without, nevertheless, coming to any determined Resolution, untill we hear with more certainty from Sir William Johnson, whether, or no, these People may be relied on.—

(signed) James Abercromby.

Endorsed Extract of a Letter from Majr. Gen. | Abercromby to Govr. Denny, dated, | April 1st 1758.— | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 | 4.

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Extract of a Letter from Major General Abercromby to Sr. William Johnson, Barrt. Dated, New York, April 4th. 1758.-

By the enclosed Copy of a Conference between the Governor of Pensylvania and Teedyuscung, & Mr. Denny's Letter to me of the 24th of March, You will perceive that the Delawares, & several of those Tribes of Indians, that made incursions on the Southern Provinces, are turning fast on Our Side, and that Some of the Twightwee Tribes, & of the far Nations over the Lakes, are of the Same Mind. You will likewise see that His, (Mr. Denny's) Assembly, have advised him in Pretty warm Terms, to invite some of the Chiefs of these Indians to their City, in Order to confirm them in their Friendship, which he very justy declined, for the Reasons given in the said Letter, and further desired my Directions therein; My Answer to him was, that as You was Commission'd by His Majesty, to manage and Superintend all Affairs with the Northern Indians, exclusive of any other Person whatsoever, I therefore shou'd transmit these Papers to You for Your Consideration, and press You to send an immediate Answer thereto, which I must beg of You to do by the earliest Opportunity.

I must at the same Time observe to You,

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that His Majesty having directed me to appoint. Brig[r]. Forbes to the Command of the Troops to be employ'd to the Southward, I have, in Consequence of my Instructions, appointed the said Brig[r]. Forbes to that Command, & have wrote a Circular Letter to the Southern Governors, solely to correspond with him in all Matters concerning that Department; pursuant to which, and in Order to give him all the Lights I possibly cou'd to enable him to carry the same into Execution, I communicated to him M[r]. Denny's Letter, from whence, not being so well acquainted with the little Dependances to be had on these Tribes, he was for closing with the Advice of the Assembly, but upon representing to him the bad Consequences, that might result from so hasty a Step, he waved his Opinion, yet is very desirous that You shou'd send M[r]. Croghan, to a Meeting with these Indians; If You think his Coming might be attended with any Success, and that You can possible spare him, I shou'd be glad You wou'd send him without Delay, & give him such Instructions As You shall see Necessary, or upon Failure of M[r]. Croghan, any other Person You shall think equal to the Task. | (signed) James Abercromby. Endorsed Extract of a Letter from Maj[r]. | Gen. Abercromby to S[r]. William | Johnson Dated New York | April 4th. 1758. - | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 | 5.

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Philadelphia, April 7th. 1758.

Sir/

I omitted to inform Your Excellency, that Teedyuscung insisting that a Messenger shou'd be dispatched to Virginia, with an Account of the Conferences, to be communicated to the Cherokees, I cou'd not avoid sending off an Express with a Letter to the Commanding Officer at Winchester. A Copy of which I do my self the Honour to transmitt to You, with the Answer from Colo. Bullet, who succeeds Colo. Washington. You will please to observe with what precaution I expressed myself in my Letter, and as it is an Affair of the Utmost Consequence, I earnest=ly desire Sir William Johnson may be acquainted with it, and give Your Excellency his Opinion of what is proper to be done.

I likewise enclose You a Copy of a Letter, sent to Mr. Burd, Lieut. Colonel of Our Second Battalion of Provincials, from Capt. Orndt, who is stationed at Fort Allen, the Place where the Susquehanna Indians are by Treaty obliged first to come to, when they arrive on our Frontiers. By that Letter, You will observe, that Numbers of Indians are expected in this Province every Day, and as they are fond of Treaties, & Teedyuscung

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will do nothing but in the most popular and Publick Manner, I desire particular Instructions how to conduct myself on this Occasion.—

I am, Sir,

Your Excellency's

most obedient and most

humble Servant

William Denny—

Copy

M. Gen. Abercromby.—

Endorsed Copy/ A Letter from Govr. Denny to / Majr. Gen. Abercromby.— / April 7th 1758. / in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 / 6.

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(Copy)

Philadelphia 25th March 1758—

Sir

Several Accounts have been brought during the Winter, as if there was a Disposition in the Western Indians to return to their Old Friends, the English; and as their has been little or no Mischief done on the Frontiers of this and the Neigbouring Provinces, of late, it is not unlikely but the Indians are Changing every Day in our Favour.

We have no small Confirmation of the Truth of These Accounts, by some Messages, which have been Delivered to me, a Relation whereof you will find in the inclosed Paper. Besides what Teedyuscung has said in Publick from the Mouth of the Messengers, who came directly from the Ohio, by the Way of Diahogo, they expressly declare that since the Peace Belts sent by these Indians, who were formerly our friends have been so kindly received by this Government, they are sure, on their receiving this News they shall be sent back immediately, with an Account of their separating from the French, and coming to join our friendly Indians in Parties against them.

A few Days ago, Letters arrived here from Winchester informing, that several Parties of

Cherokees were come there, and were preparing to go against The French and their Indians on the Ohio. These Messengers were, somehow or others, made acquainted with this, and they no sooner heard it, then Teedyuscung with them came in a formal Manner to me with the following Address.

"Brother I would have you also dispatch "a Messenger immediately to the Cherokees, to inform "them of what is done, and to stop them. For if "any Mischief is done, it will not be said, the "Cherokees did it, but that you have done it, who "hired and sent them; and this will undo all "that we have done. But when the Indian Nations "are informed of the Peace we have made, than "all those Indians will come and join the Cherokees, "and be all Friends with the English; and all together "will go against the French.

"Being asked what Sort of Message can be "sent to the Cherokees, that will not do Harm; for "should any Indians come down with French men "at their Head, as they have always done, what than "must be done.

"Teedyuscung replied, I would therefore have "the Messenger sent, as soon as possible, to Prevent "any of the Indians joining with the French"

I have Reason to believe, that the Cherokees

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hate the Delawares and Shawoneses, and do not Desire they should become our Friends but would have them all Destroyed, having long born them great Enmity; so that it is a nice Point how to Communicate this News to them, without giving them Disgust, and if any of the early Parties of the Cherokees take Miff, and should return disgusted, they may turn back many other Parties, that may be on their way to join his Majestys Forces.

As this ill Consequence, can, I think, be well avoided if Prudence be observed in the Communication of this News, in Compliance with Teedyuscung's Request, I send this Express desiring that the Whole Matter may be related to the Cherokees; and they be requested to have Regard thereto in their Scouting Parties.

I am persuaded there is a good Disposition in several Indian Tribes, lately our bitter Enemies, towards the English; and as it would be a great Misfortune, that this should be in any wise discouraged or obstructed, I hope you will find a way of engaging the Cherokees to attend seriously to the request made by Teedyuscung and these Indians.

I beg the Favour to know what Number of Cherokees are already come, and how many

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more are expected; and in what manner they will Dispose of themselves, till the rendezvous of the Kings Forces. I am

Sir

Your most Humble Servant

William Denny.

Copy

Colonel Washington.

Endorsed Copy | 25th March 1758. | Letter from Governor Denny | to Colo. Washington or the | Commanding Officer of the | Virginia Forces at Winchester | Enclosed in Govr. Denny's of ye 7th April | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 | 7.

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Honble Sir

On Receipt of yours of the 25th Instant, I held a Council, Copy whereof I have inclosed, by which you will see the Reasons for not attempting a Negotiation of Peace between the Northern and Southern Indians, or without consulting higher Powers on the Occasion.

I have dispatched an Express to Williamsburgh with your Letters, where Col^o Washington is, and can immediately have the Resolve of the Council, on the Affair; as to my attempting, in the Interim, such Negotiations as Teedyuscung proposes, by the Resolve of my Council, cannot justifiably do it, and for the reasons by them offered, also divers others I could enumerate, You will see the Dangers at present, of such a thing, and provided we were, there could be little done as the Chiefs of their Nations are not yet arrived; neither have we here an Interpreter that can be understood, and our attempting to speak on the Subject to those Young Men sent from the Nations to revenge the Injuries done us, and them by our Enemies, might be understood, and be a means of calling in all those Parties we have sent out; this would be much to our Prejudice, as the Enemy are on our Frontiers committing the cruellest of Hostilities;

I must also think such a Step, at this Juncture, would raise a Jealousy amongst them, as they are displeased at our not having proper Necessaries here to furnish them on their Arrival, which was their Expectation (and I believe promised them) I say in all Probability, such a Proposal to those Indians, at this Time might be attended with the Consequences of Confirming them in an Opinion, that we had made Peace with their Enemies, have no further Service for them, and in consequence thereof did not get the Supplies promised them, for carrying on the War we engaged them in; for said Reasons must think it too nice an Affair at Present to attempt. The Number of Indians here is about four hundred, also considerable Parties on their way, and expected from the Southern Nations, Numbers uncertain, tho imagined not less than one Thousand; above Twelve Days since Three Hundred of the Cherokees have been equipped and sent out against the Enemy, the last Accounts I had from them they had discover'd a Party of them, and intended, as soon as they had assembled a sufficent Body to attack them, and make no Doubt they'll shortly give us a good Account thereof; as to my further Descents they may make cannot inform you.

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As the Success of our Arms in this Quarter, will, in a great Measure, depend on the supporting and spiriting up our Friend Indians, have taken this opportunity to acquaint you of the present, and great Want here of some light Fire Arms suitable for Indians, also Matchcoats there being no such thing here nor can conveniently be got, so that the late Parties, to the Amount of about one hundred Indians cannot be equipped, and appear very uneasy at our having not supplies to give them, especially the particulars mentioned – This I acquaint you of, making no Doubt, if your Province have these Things in Store (as a speedy Supply will greatly redound to the good of the Service) they will send them; which will be enabling the Agent to keep them in Obedience to us. I conclude with Doing myself the Honour to subscribe

Your Most Obedient
humble Servant
Thos. Bullitt

Fort Loudoun
March the 31st. 1758
To Govr. Denny

Copy

Endorsed Copy | Letter from Capt Thos. Bullitt, | Commanding Officer at | Fort Loudoun in | Virginia | To Govr. Denny. | March 31st. 1758. | Enclosed in Govr. Denny's of ye. 7th April | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 | 3.

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The Proceedings of a Council of Officers held at Fort Loudoun in Virginia March the 30th 1758 Called by Capt. Thomas Bullitt to Consider whither a Proposal of Peace (offered by King Teedyuscung and several Indian Chiefs to the Honourable William Denny Esquire Governor of Pennsylvania; and by them imparted to the Commanding Officer of Virginia Forces at Fort Loudoun, requesting him to communi=cate it to the Cherokees) can be proposed to the Southern Indians without great Danger of disgusting them, and incurring their Displeasure in such a Man=ner as may be prejudicial to the Interest of the British Colonies in America –

Present in Council

Capt. Thomas Bullitt President

Lieut Campbell	Members	Lieut. Buckner
Lieut Thompson		Lieut. Smith
Ensign Roy		- - - - - -

1st We considered that

The Cherokees are now firmly engaged by our means in a War against the French and their Indians, and having received some small Losses have frequently begged of us not to think of making Peace, till they as well as we are satisfi'd

2d. They are a jealous People, and may probably say, when they hear a Peace is proposed, that we

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are about to do what they have often told us they were afraid of; namely, that, as soon as they had firmly engaged for us and incensed many Nations by their Friendship for the English, we should make Peace and leave them to be Destroyed.

3. We believe that such a Proposal would be equally disagreeable to the Catawbas, Creeks, Tuscaroras and other Southern Nations (Who are now our sincere Friends, and many of them deeply engaged in the present War) as to the Cherokees

4th. As a Disguest given to these Nations (and we have great Reason to believe from all their Discourse, that such a Proposal will be very offencive) may be productive of consequences as fatal to the Prosperity of the Southern Colonies as a Peace with those Indians would be serviceable to the Northern (even were we well assured, that they would become as faithfull Allies as the Southern Indians now are, tho that is a great Uncertainty) we think, that we ought not to run so great a Risque as we believe we should, were we to communicate to them the Proposal of Peace from Nations who have always been odious to them, and who they believe would not keep a Peace, were it made.

5th. We think that we ought not to affront those that have always been our Friends, to oblige those

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who revolted from our Friendship, and have been our Professed Enemies, and perhaps after a Peace made and the Southern Indians affronted, may immediately prove as treacherous as they have been, and (by their harrassing our Frontiers with Scalping Parties while they pretend in another Colony to be Desirous of, and concluding a Peace) we have Reason to believe now are.

6th We had Capt. Gist, the Deputy Superintendant of Indian Affairs in this District, sent for, and brought in Council, who assured us, that such a Proposal, he believed, could not with Safety, nor without the greatest Danger of the Indians Displeasure, be communicated to them; and that if it should, there is no Interpreter here capable of Doing it. –

7thly We are unwilling to let the Ohio Indians, as is desired, know the Designs of the Southern Indians, because the Lives and Safety of them, as well as many of our own Officers and Men may, in some Measure, perhaps depend on Secrecy; and it is very probable, that, if they knew when and where these Indians were going, the French would at least, have one Friend among them, who would not fail to give Intelligence, which might render our Schemes abortive.

8thly As many of the Chiefs, of each Nation are not here, and no Commissioners appointed by their Council to make a Peace, they could not Do it without returning home, which would be a very great Expence for nothing on this Colony, and the Loss of at Least one Campaign's Service from them.

9thly The Officers present conceive, that they are invested with no Power to conduct an affair of such Delicacy, and of such Importance; nor that they have a Right of making or even treating of War, or Peace, with any Nation.

The Officers in Council, for the above reasons, are unanimously of the Opinion, that we ought not to acquaint the Cherokees with the proposal but that it be Speedily communicated to the President of Virginia

Thos. Bullitt
John Campbell
Mord: Buckner
Nathl. Thompson
Chs. Smith
James Roy.

To Govr. Denny. Copy

Endorsed Copy. 30th March 1758. | Proceedings of a Council of | Officers held at Fort Loudoun | in Virginia respecting a | Proposal of Peace offerd by | Teedyuscung and other | Delaware Indians to the | Cherokees. | Enclosed in Govr. Dennys of ye 7th April | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 | 9.

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Extract of a Letter from Major General Abercromby to Govr. Denny, Dated, New York, April 10th. 1758.—

Sir/

Yesterday I was favour'd with Yours of the 7th. together with sundry Enclosures relative to Indian Affairs, among others the Copy of Your Letter to the Commanding Officer at Winchester, in which, I must own with Pleasure, You have expressed Yourself with great Precaution; And as it is an Affair of the utmost Consequence, (as You very justly observe) I have, pursuant to Your Desire, made Sr. William Johnson acquainted with it, and have desired his Opinion of what is proper to be done, which I am in Hopes we shall soon receive; meanwhiles, I shou'd think it wou'd be right to avoid entering into any Treaties, either with Teedyuscung or any other Indians; Observing nevertheless, by no Means to discourage any Expectations they may have of our Accepting their Alliance, which when once we are certain of the Sincerity of their Professions in Our Behalf, must prove of too great an Advantage to us for us to neglect, on any Account; And from Your Experience in Treating with these People, You know best how to Temper with them, it wou'd be untimely for me to give any Directions on that Head; to You that are on the Spot, and

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who I dare flatter my self will be able, to keep them in their Prensent seeming Humours, untill such Time as we can hear from Sr. William Johnson.-

(signed) James Abercromby.-

Endorsed Extract of a Letter from M. Gen. | Abercromby to Govr. Denny; dated | April 10th 1758.- | in M.G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 | 12.

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167

New York, April 10th 1758.—

Sir/

You will have seen by my Letter of the 4th that Several Tribes of Indians to the Southward are inclined to enter into an Alliance with His Majesty and to make War upon His Enemies the French: — Since that Letter I have received a Letter from Govr. Denny of the 7th, accompanying several Enclosures relative to the Same Purpose, Copies of all which, I herewith transmitt You for Your Information, & beg I may have Your Opinion thereon without any Delay, as you will see by Mr. Denny's Letter, that he is very pressing for the Same.— In my Answer to him of this Day I inform him, that I have sent You these Papers, & that, untill such Time as we can hear from You, he shou'd temper with these People and keep them in Play, without nevertheless coming to any Decision; which I am in Hopes he will be able to do, as certainly if they are sincere in their Professions of Friendship to us, it must prove of great Advantage to His Majesty's Service in the Operations of the ensuing Campaign to have them on Our Side.

I am &ca —

Sir Wm. Johnson, Bart.—

Endorsed. Copy/ A Letter from Majr. Genl. Abercromby, to Sr. Wm. Johnson./ April 10th 1758.—/ in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758/13.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Extract of a Letter from Sir William Johnson to Major General Abercromby; Dated Fort Johnson, April 13th 1758.

I shall endeavour all in my Power, to get as many Indians as I possibly can, to join His Majesty's Forces both this Way, and to the Southward; for which Purpose I shall send Mr. Croghan, as soon as he returns from the German Flatts to Philadelphia, (in the mean While I think Govr. Denny shou'd lose no Time, in sending Invitations to them Indians, who are inclined to Peace to come to Philadelphia) with proper Instructions & Directions, to assist and cooperate with Govr. Denny, in bringing about and settling a Peace with the Ohio & Western Indians, and try if he can't get a Number of them to join Brigr. Gen. Forbes, and endeavour to persuade the Rest to lie still if possible; which (from the Steps I have lately taken) I am in Hopes he will be able to accomplish. — The Cherokees will, I am positive, (by what they promised me last Fall when here,) join us heartily, if we do not by Neglect, or some Mismanagement overset the Good Disposition they then were in, which I hope will be guarded against, & prevented, as their Alliance is in my Opinion a Matter of the Utmost Consequence, particularly to

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the Southern Governments, which I think shou'd not stick at any Thing now to engage them heartily. I have allowed the Indians of the Two Mohawk Castles to hunt to the Northward of the Mohawk River towards Canada for twenty Days; it will answer the End of Scouts for the Time they are out, as they are immediately to come and give me Notice, shou'd they make any Discovery of an Enemy. I shall lose no Time in sending Messages & Invitations to all the Nations in this Quarter to come and join You when called upon. I will not answer to have them here before they are wanted for Action, or the Troops take the Field, as it wou'd be an immense Expence, & Trouble to keep them; besides, they are such an Odd Kind of People, that they never can stay long in one Place; if the proposed Meeting of Onondaga was over, I shou'd be able to form a Judgement, how and what Number wou'd act, as they will then determine what to do.-

(sign'd) Wm. Johnson.-

Endorsed Extract of a Letter from Sr. Wm. | Johnson to M. G. Abercromby.-| Dated April 13th 1758.-| in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 | 14.

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Extract of a Letter from Govr. Denny to Majr. Gen. Abercromby, Dated, Philadelphia, April 16th. 1758.-

Sir/

It is very disagreable to me to give You so much Trouble in Indian Affairs, but as Sir William Johnson is at so great a Distance, and no Agent under him is here to consult with, it cannot be avoided.-

Last Summer Mr. Croghan held Conferences with several Parties of Cherokees over Susquehanna, made them some Presents, and encouraged them to come to the Assistance of His Majesty's Subjects this Spring; and in Consequence of those Conferences, Deputies were sent from these Indians, at the Request of Mr. Croghan, to Sir William Johnson, who gave them a kind Reception, had several Meetings, & dispatched them, with His Answers, into the Cherokee Country.- Expecting Numbers of Southern Indians wou'd come early in the Spring, I failed not to mention it, as well to Lord Loudoun, as to Sr. William Johnson, in one of my Letters wrote in November last, & desired Directions in what Manner I shou'd act towards them, in Case they shou'd come into this Province; but have received no Answer.

The Letters, Copies of which are enclosed, will

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inform Your Excellency of the Arrival of forty Chero-
-kees at Fort Loudoun in Our Province, & more are on the Road, & there is Reason to think that they are come in Virtue of what passed between the Cherokee Deputies & Sir William Johnson. - They are almost naked, without Arms, and expect to be com-
-pleatly equipped for War at every Fort where they come, imagining Preparations are made for them, and Magazines of Goods laid in before their Arrival. Brigadier General Stanwix knows the Nature of these Indians, what was said to them last Year, and how apt they are to take Offence, which wou'd have dreadful Consequences.

Our unhappy Province has hitherto delay'd the Supplies, and indeed if there was Money, it does not appear to me, that the Assembly wou'd consent to this heavy Expence, having refused to pay ninety Pounds, laid out by Col. Stanwix's Orders & Mr. Croghan's on necessaries for the Cherokees. It was with Difficulty that the Commissioners were last year persuaded by me, to send any Presents to the Cherokees: They did not scruple to say, that as these were Southern Indians, and came by Accident to the Northward, they were more immediately under the Commander in Chief, & ought to be directed & supplied by him; That the great Charge attending Indians, together with the Efforts of this

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Government to bring about a Peace with the Delawares, Shawanese, & those, who first committed Hostilities, has, & will, run this Province to a very Extraordinary Expences, too much for them to bear, considering they provide Forces for the necessary Defence of their Frontiers, extending near two Hundred Miles in Length.–

Knowing their Sentiments, & that the Province being near fifty Thousand Pounds in Debt for the Pay and Provisions of their Troops, no Time was to be lost, lest the Cherokees show'd be disobliged, I sent the Letters to Sir John St. Clair, & tho' very ill with the Fever and Ague, he was so good as to attend to them, but declined doing any Thing, on Account of the singular and unreasonable Notions prevailing in the Assembly and People of this Province in Indian Affairs, & particularly with Regard to the Cherokees.–

I am therefore obliged earnestly to represent to Your Excellency, the fatal Consequences that will certainly arise to the Publick Measures, and especially those concerted for a Western Expedition, if Timely Supplies are not sent to the Southern Indians, to be distributed at any Place where they chuse to come, either in Virginia, Maryland, or this Province.

In the Mean Time no Endeavours shall be wanting on my Part, to persuade the Assembly, when

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they meet on Tuesday next, to send up Arms, and an Assortment of Goods, for the immediate Use of the Cherokee Warriours, who are come or shall chuse to come, into any of our Forts; but lest I shou'd not succeed, or obtain a sufficient Sum for this necessary Purpose, I entreat Your Excellency to take this im=portant Matter immediately into consideration, & please to give such Orders, as You shall judge best for the King's Service. —

(sign'd) William Denny. -

P. S. 17th. —

Sir John St. Clair has privately sent off Arms and Match coats to the Cherokees. —

Endorsed Extract of a Letter from Govr. | Denny to M. G. Abercromby. | Dated, April 16th 1758. - | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758 | 15.

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Fort Loudoun, April 9th 1758.–

Sir/

Forty Cherokee Indians are just arrived at this Garrison, and am at a Loss to know how to act with Regard to their Treatment, but intends allowing them Plenty of Beef, Pork, Flower, and a small Quantity of Whisky Rum, till I receive further Orders; As there is not an Interpreter with them, I know but Little of their Designs as yet; but I believe they come here agreable to the Treaty held by Mr. Croghan at this Place last Year, and I think they will not be fit to go to War, till they receive Arms, Shirts, Stockings, & Leather for Mockisons, which they stand in much need of, as they are just come from Carolina, and are very ill provided with those necessaries.–

If they will go after the Indians, which has done the Damage lately, I will accompany them with 25. or 30. of the best Men in this garrison.

They say there are 100. of their Nation on their Way to Fort Cumberland, and 30. more will come here in a short Time. There are also a large Number of them gone off to War from Augusta Court House.

I am, Sir, / Your most obedient

Humble Servant

Wm. Thompson.

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P. S. One of them who can speak English tells me, they want a little Wampum, Silver Plates to go round their Arms, and Silver Brotches for their Shirt Breasts, & Gorgets for the Breasts of 9 Captains, that they may go to War like White Men. I believe they want every Thing, that is necessary at Treatys with Indians.—

Lt. Colo. Armstrong—

Copy

Endorsed Copy/ A Letter from Capt. Thompson to/ Lt. Colo. Armstrong.—/ April 9th 1758.—/ Enclosed in Govr. Denny's of the 16th/ in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: 1758/16.

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Carlisle 11th April 1758 -

May it please your Honour.

Inclosed is a Letter from Captain Thompson respecting some Cherokee Indians lately come to Fort Loudoun; the manner of Treating and Supplying those People in my Opinion being at this time of great Consequence to his Majestys Service, and therefore requiring your Honour's early Consideration and direction I thought it my Duty to send the Intelligence by Express, in the mean Time having given orders to let them have a Sufficiency of such Provissions as the place affords, but as little Spirituous Liquor as possible, and as much as may be, that they be kept from falling into any matter or thing, that would either give them a bad habit, or require a rebuke. - there being without Arms or an Interpreter, is very disagreeable. -

Ten Persons most whereof are Women and Children (since writing your Honour) have been taken from York County and one Man killed The York People are extreamly deficient in not sending to Fort Morris, which coud have been done in a few hours, and in the highest probability the Enemy intercepted on their return, as at that Juncture I had sent all the Men that

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coud be spared from this Garrison to the Assistance of the Neighbourhood of Shippensburg, under the Direction of Major Mercer who followed a different Party of the Enemy, that killed Donaldson and the Wifes of one McCombs. This Party of the Enemy, in a Place called the Path Valley, was ahead of the Major about 14 Miles, when Capt. Ward who who was patroling in those parts, fell into their Front, but his Advanced Guard who discovered a Smoak from a waste Cabbin, and saw one Indian be-fore the Door, in giving the signal of a Discovery by waving the Hat was observed by the Enemy; who precipitately fled off leaving behind them the Scalps of the two Persons last mentioned, with nine Indian Budgets, a Shafe of Arrows, and a Bow, two or three Blankets together with eight Horses taken from the Inhabitants — I have sent orders that the Horses be Delivered to the respective owners without Charge upon Demand. The Enemy was pursued that afternoon by the Party under Ward, and next a Matter of twenty Miles by the Party under the Major. —

We bought Our flints for some Time Past, and can get none good in those Parts we are very Short of Amunition, having too little for the necessary Exercises, distinct from any other Accident

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that may happen, and I see no reason to look for anything but hot and frequent attacks

I am Sir

Your Honours most Obedient

humble Servant.

John Armstrong

Copy

Endorsed Copy/ Letter from Lieut. Colo./ Armstrong to Governor/ Denny/ 11th April 1758.-/ Enclosed in Govrs. Dennys of the 16th/ in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24. 1758/ 17.

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Extract of a Letter from Major General Abercromby to Governor Denny. Dated, April 20th 1758.

Sir,

As I am in daily Expectations of hearing from Sir William Johnson, either by Mr Croghan, or such other Person conversant in Indian Affairs, as Sir William shall have been able to spare at this Time, which I have pressed him in my several Letters by no Means to delay sending, I again find myself under the disagreable Necessity of deferring till then my Answer to Your last Favour of the 16th. – And as I find by Your Postscript of the 17th that Sir John St. Clair has privately sent off Arms and Match-coats to the Cherokees, (in which he did very right) I shou'd hope those will induce them to stay, and free You from the Apprehensions You are under, of their taking Offence, which, I am sensible, might be attended with bad Consequences; but yet, I do not see how, without the Advice and Assistance of Sir William Johnson, it is in my Power to remedy it, unless You have been able to prevail on Your Assembly, to send up Arms & an Assortment of Goods for their immediate Use; to which Purpose, I am convinced, no Endeavours of Yours will have been wanting. –

(signed) James Abercromby. –

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Fort Johnson 28th April 1758.

Sir

I am honoured with your Favour of the 4th and 10th Inst. inclosing me Sundry Papers transmitted you by Govr. Denny relative to the Indian Negotiations carrying on in that Province. All which I have carefully perused and maturely consider'd

I propose to confine myself in this Letter to these Affairs only, and give my Answer to other Subjects contained in Your Favours before me in a Separate one.

I think it previously necessary to give you some Account of this Teedyscung, or King Teedyscung, as he is called in the Pennsylvania Proceedings, and Who seems to carry the Absolute Lead in all their Negotiations.

Teedyscung is by Birth a Delaware Indian. before the present War broke out he lived at or near Wyoming with some other Indians of his Tribe. After Genl. Braddocks Defeat, he retired with several other Delawares and River Indians to Diahogo, after this he went to Niagara, and took up the Ax from the French and was one of the Chiefs, who headed and perpetrated the well known Desolations, on the Frontiers of

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Mary Land and Pennsylvania - by various Negotiations with the six Nations he was at Length prevailed on, to Drop the Ax against the English, and at subsequent Treaties held in the Province of Pennsylvania, he entered into a Re- Alliance and Friendship with us.

Teedyscung tho no Indian King in the proper Sence of that word, is a chief Man, and concidered as such among the Delawares, Monseys and Mohickander Indians, who are at present Settled on the Seesquehanna and some of its Branches.

The Party Spirit, which has, and continues so signally to Display itself in Pennsylvania, hath supported this Mans consequence amongst those Indians. he has been courted by both sides, and all their Negotiations, seem to have centered with him only. This Conduct under our late Circumstances with relation to those Indians may prehaps be justified, but should our Indian Affairs take a more favourable Turn, it will not in my humble Opinion be adviseable to give Teedyuscung this exclusive Distention in Publick Treaties and Negotiations, as it will tend to give Umbrage to the other Indians and build our Fabrick upon too narrow and precarious a Foundation - besides

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if I am not mistaken, the Quakers have fixed their hold so firmly on Teedyscung that he will do nothing without their Concurrance and whilst they interfere in Indian Affairs, the Gov.nt of Pennsylvania has found, and will find unsur=mountable Impediments to his Negotiations. Teedyscung makes so considerable a Figure on the Face of the Pennsylvania Indian Proceedings which I have had the Honour now to receive from you, and taken to himself such in=credible Consequence and extensive Influence as may have very ill Consequences, if implicitly depended on.

What I have to say in the Sequel of this Letter, made it necessary first to intro=duce Teedyscung to your Excellency, and to throw in a few Observations upon his Character, in which I have been impartial, and aimed at Brevity. — I think it was sound Policy to cultivate a good Understanding and Friend=ship with Teedyscung and that it will by no Means be prudent or proper to disgust him but while Court is paid, Caution should not be forgot. Implicit Belief and Negotiations upon it, which may affect the whole System of our Indian Affairs, and this on the Credit of

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one Man, would be a most imprudent Credulity And I think Govr. Denny tho' urged by his Assembly to plunge at once into those extencive and important Negotiations, which Teedyscung opened in the Conferences, acted a much wiser part, to take time first to look around him, and apply to your Excellency before he advanced too far.

Teedyscung's Speech to the Governor of the 15th March seems to me throughout the whole of it to betray an Excess of Vanity, and a Head made giddy by the Complaisance and Courtship which has been paid to him. he Speaks of himself in a Stile of Consequence, which I am fully convinced belongs to no Single Indian upon the Continent, and even more ridiculous in him to assume than in many others.

he tells the Governor, that all the Nations from the Sun Rise to those beyond the Lakes as far as the Sun Sets, have sent Messages to him, and constituted him their Plenipo - The Indian Manner of Speaking is indeed sometimes strongly figurative, but this is a Rant beyond what I have ever met with. - He tells the Governor, he speaks & produces a Belt in behalf of 18 Nations, 6 of these are the 6 Nations, who, nationally considered, have not

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I am well Assured given him any kind of Dele=
=gation. he mentiones some whom I never heard
of, and tho I have now Indians of many Nations
at my House, and White people who know great
Number of the Nations, they are utterly ignorant
of these. Others he mentions Particularly the
Caghnawagas, whom I am almost confident dont
know there is such a Man in the World as
Teedyscung.

In short the man seems to me inebri=
=ated with the Notice that has been taken of him
at Philadelphia. From my own Experience I
well know, that the Modesty and good Sense
of an Indian, is not Proof against a great
Weight of Favour and Courtship.—

I will now lay before your Excellency
my Idea of what is real, and may be Fact
in all this Extravagance of Teedyscung.

The Delawares who live in the Neighbour=
=hood of Fort Du Quesne, have had many Messages
from the six Nations exhorting them to forbear
Hostilities against the English, Teedyscung also pro=
=mised to send to them, I suppose he has done
it— The French Probably have been scarce of
Goods and Provissions. These Causes have opera=
=ted and those Indians finding Teedyscung had

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made his Peace with the English, are now willing to do the same, and have sent Messengers with a Belt of Wampum to Teedyscung to pave the Way, to their being readmitted to our Alliance & Friendship; These Indians, I beieve are the only ones who will send Deputies to negotiate a Peace with Pennsylvania, and when they com I am of opinion they should meet with a favourable Reception, but at the same time I think the Govr. of Pennsylvania should insist on they and their Families leaving their present places of Abode, and returning to their ancient settlements of Wyoming and Shamokin, where proper Provision must be promised and made for them and their Families. –

An other Article I apprehend ought to be mentiond as a preliminary, that they Deliver up all our People whom they haves got and hold in Slavery and this Point I Doubt not Govr. Denny will again repeat to Teedyscung as it was promised to me here by the Delawares, and I think if they are sincere in their Declarations, this point must consequently follow.

The Delawares Nation consist of many Tribes; if Nation be put for Tribe, it may mislead..

Mr. Croghan is, and will daily be more

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& more necessary to me, he tells me there is a very good Interpreter, one Mr. Magee, who lives at Donnegal, and understands the Language and is well acquainted, both with the Delawares and Shawanese, whom Govr. Denny may send for and employ.

When & where your Excellency would have these Indians to join His Majestys Forces, and aid his Arms against the Enemy, you will please to Answer him. I would only beg Leave to observe, to you that the Twightwees, Jenundadies and Delaware Indians are not by my Information in a good Understanding with the Cherokees, Cattawbas, and Creeks, and therefore as those Indians, if they are properly supported, will I doubt not continue their Aid against the French on the Ohio; I apprehend Brigr. Genl. Forbes will have in them a Sufficent Body of Indians for his Assistance; great Care must be taken, not to join any Nations of Indians with them, who may be such Junction occasion intestine Broils and Feuds, whereby the Whole Indian Assistance will be over set; And great Care must likewise be taken that the Southern Governments do not disgust or damp the present Ardor & Attachment, of the Southern Indians by an ill timed Parsimony, at any

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Rate, if we value their Assistance as essential to our Success, it must be supported by a fixt, and not a precarious Fund.

The Council of Officers held at Fort Loudoun you will have seen were of the same Opinion with me, as to the Propriety of Com=municating Teedyscung's Proposals of Peace to the Cherokee's and Southern Indians and I am convinced they judge perfectly right; I think they ought not even to know of any of our Negotiations with the Delawares Twightwees &ca. if it can be concealed from them.

Upon this occasion I must beg Leave, to repeat to Your Excellency what I have formerly mentioned to the Earl of Loudoun: that there are in Pennsylvania, some busy intriguing Spirits who are for Pushing that Government into a wide Scene of Indian Management, I might guess at their Motives, but I shall not take up your time with the Detail at present, I only beg Leave to Add, that it seems to me to be the Remains of the old Provincial Spirit, when Province counteracted Province in Indian Affairs consulted their own private System without any reguard to one General Plan, and thus confused and weakened His Majestys Indian Interest. I would wish Govr. Denny to be warned against these Wiles–

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I am not jealous, Sir, of Encroachments upon my Department - Whoever or whatever Set of Men I think can advance the common Good in Indian Affairs, I would readily embrace and assist. - but Matters stand upon a delicate and ticklish Bottom and if the Indians find we pull Different Ways, we shall overset what hopes are yet to be entertained.

Let Pennsylvania go on and Negotiate Peace with the Delawares, Mohickkanders and Monseys but I would not wish them to enter into extensive Negotiations; there are Dependancies and Connections which I have great reason to think they are not Sufficiently informed of, and without which they will be apt to Plunge into Confusion and do Mishief, where they perhaps hope to do good

Herewith I send Your Excellency an extract from a Message brought me by two Seneca Warriors from the Chief Sachem of that Nation, hence it appears, that many of the Western Nations are disgusted with the French; They desired and held a Meeting with the Senecas at a Place on the South East of Lake Erie, what past there, is not yet made Publick. The six Nations are summoned to a grand Meeting at Onondaga, where all that

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Past at Lake Erie, is to be laid before them and by what I can learn from some Indians, a con=siderable revolution in their Political System is expected to take place, and which will be very Advantageous to us. I suppose Teedyscung has heard something of this, which gave him the Handle to Puff as he has done and which I suspect was premature and indiscreet not with Teedyscung, but with the great Council at Onondagas, any proposals of the Western Nations are to be heard & resolved upon, and at that Council Teedyscung would be looked upon as a very inconsiderable Person and his Nation be obliged to submit to their Determinations or be speedily exterminated by the six Nations and their Allies, who if once they can come to be of one Mind would soon strike Terror thro all the Indians upon the Continent, and if they should turn against the French in Earnest, will be no inconsiderable Thorn in their Side.

I have interupted you, Sir, with a Long Letter, but I thought the Subject called upon me to be somewhat explicit, and I have abridged as much as I consistantly could—

I have the Honour to be with

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unfeigned Esteem

Your Excellencys

most Obedient and most

faithfull Humble Servt.

Wm. Johnson

To His Excellency

M. Genl. Abercromby &ca &ca

Copy

Endorsed Copy | Letter from Sir Wm. Johnson | to Major Genl. Abercromby.- | No. 1 | April 28th 1758.- | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: | 1758 | &c.

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Fort Johnson, 25th March 1758.

Several Senecas arrived here from their Country in ten Days, who having desired a Meeting spoke as follows. -

Prest.

Sr. William Johnson.

Capt. Montour, Interpreter.

Caniyeans Speaker.

Brother Warraghyjaghey.

Your Friend Tienwhagera (meaning the Cow Shooter, a great Sachem of the Senecas & true to Our Interest) having received several Accounts lately of the Designs of the French &ca, sent us down with Orders to communicate them to You.

We are now (Thank the great Spirit for it) safe arrived, notwithstanding the many Obstructions & discouragements, we met with from (we now find) disaffected Persons, who told us You were greatly out of Temper and might destroy us. - However, we were determined to see You, and we are now glad of sitting with You, by the Council Fire of the 6: Nations, where we shall open Our Hearts, and communicate every Thing we know to You.

Be then attentive, Brother.

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The Commanding Officer at Fort Detroit some Time last Autumn sent Messengers to the several Ottawawa Nations, Jienundadees, Twightwees &ca, to desire they wou'd stay at Home for some Time, as he was preparing to kindle a very large Council Fire at His Fort, in Order to call them to it, and there settle some Matters of the utmost Consequence to them.

They sent him for Answer, that they wou'd acquaint their Allies, as they live far off, ex-tending Quite to Mississippi, which wou'd take some Time; however there came a Number of Indians of the different and distant Nations to attend said Meeting.

When met at the Village of the Jienundadees close by Fort Detroit, Sagistaghréyi, Chief of that Nation, told the others that he had Learnt something of what the French intended to propose at that Meeting, & it being of a very interesting Nature, advised and begged of them, not to be too hasty in their Resolutions or Answers to the French.—

Being now met at the Fort, after a great Deal of Forms &ca, the Commandant told them, that what he was now going to lay before them, was from the great King of France, His Master, whose Commands he was to obey at any Rate

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and then proceeded thus.

Children, of the several Nations now met here.

The King Your Father, being very sensible, that neither he, the English, or You, have a right title or claim to the Lands You now live on, being the Property of the Six Nations by Conquest, and he having nothing more at Heart, than the Happiness of His Children, has wisely thought of an Expedient, and the only one, to make You and Yours live quiet and happy hereafter, which is to fall upon the Six Nations, and cut them off from the Face of the Earth, to facilitate which Your Father has been for Years, and is still endeavouring to persuade the Six Nations, (now grown a degenerate and foolish People) to quarrel with their Brethren the English, and is now in Hopes of succeeding. This must involve them in a War with the English, & consequently make their Necks so small, that they must fall an easy Victim to us, when we fall upon them. It is Your Father, The Great King's Pleasure, to have this brought about, & accomplished towards the next fall.

After this the Commandant stood up, and on telling them this was the Chief, and only

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Reason of His calling them to the Meeting, he took a War Belt of 8. Feet long, and one Foot broad, threw it before them, and desired they wou'd not hesitate at taking it up, then had the Head knocked out of a Hogshead of Claret, drank the King of France's Health in the Blood of the 6. Nations (meaning the Claret) and hoped they wou'd all follow the Example.

Some of the distant Western Nations were about taking up the War Belt, & singing their War Song, but Saghitághéry, the Jienondadees Chief before mentioned, took up the Belt and in an angry Mood, told all the Nations present, that he did not think it proper any of them shou'd sing the War Song before they had maturely consider'd the Purport of what was spoke with the Belt, which he look'd upon to be of a very serious and interesting Nature, and deserving a due Consideration. Upon which they withdrew, and held a Council in the Woods amongst themselves, when the Jienondadees Chief spoke as follows.

"I am surprised at Your Conduct & Readiness to take up the French Hatchet, without considering the Consequences, especially as I gave you a Caution, before we entered The Fort or Council Room of the French. He then added,

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How can I, who am the Flesh and Blood of the Six Nations and in whose Towns Numbers of our Friends & Children are living and settled, declare War against them. Where are there any of the Nations now present, that are not allied to the Six Nations also. To take up the Hatchet against them, wou'd in my Opinion be wrong. Therefore I now declare before You all, that I will not comply with what is proposed by this Belt." And then he kicked it from him, towards where the Twightwees sat, & desired they wou'd speak their Sentiments.

After a short Pause the Twightwees replied, that the Six Nations were their old Friends and Allies, and therefore they wou'd never come into what the French proposed by that Belt, so kicked it from them to the Nations from Ilinois and about Mississippi, who after some Consultation together, said, that when the Six Nations formerly conquered them, and several other Nations around them, and had it in their Power to destroy them, entirely and did not do it, they cou'd not think it right to turn their Enemies now, so threw the Belt from them to some of the other Nations, who all joined in Opinion with the Rest who spoke

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before them, so that they unanimously rejected the Proposal of the French; Then went to the Commandant, who made the Speech to them, and told him, that as it was an Affair of great Moment, which he laid before them, they wou'd take Time to consider of it in their Respective Countrys, and then send him their ultimate Resolutions.

N. B.

This Account was brought by Jahad-dyha, a Jienondadee Chief, & some Twightwees &c, who were sent purposely to acquaint the Six Nations of it. — They told it at Niagara to several Senecas there, and at Kanawagon, on the Back of the Seneca Country. —

A true Extract from the Original Minutes. — Examined by me
Peter Wraxall
Secry. of Indn. Affairs. —
Copy

Endorsed Copy / Intelligence from a Seneca / Sachem. / Enclosed in Sr. William Johnson's / No. 1. April 28th. 1758. / in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24: / 1758 / 21.

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Fort Johnson 28th April 1758

Sir

Two Days ago I receivd a Belt of Wampum from the upper Nations with an invitation to me and the lower Mohawk Castle to attend the Approaching Congress at Onondaga, a Copy of which Message and my Answer to it I herewith transmit your Excellency

By the Intelligence I have receivd (a Copy of which I send you with my other Letter of this Date) there is I think great Reason to believe this Congress at Onondaga will be of very great Importance and I hope productive of Events which may be highly favourable to His Majestys Service and the Interest of these Colonies.

I persuade myself the Indians would not have given me this Invitation unless they were convinced that the Subject Matters to be there discussed would be agreable to me.

The time for the Meeting you will see, Sir, is very Short, and I was obliged to give my Answer immediately. as I judged it for the good of his Majestys Service, to give my Attendance, I have accepted the Invitation, and propose to set off in a few Days.

As to the proposal of the Indians,

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for Opening and reestablishing a Trade in the country of the Six Nations, it is undoubtedly an Application not to be rejected, at the same Time it is an Affair of that Importance as to merit a very serious Consideration before it is set on Foot. At My Lord Loudouns Desire I deliverd the Sketch of a Plan, in case the Trade at Oswego should be reestablished. A Copy of this I have some where amongst my Papers but I wish you would ask my Lord for a Copy of that I gave him that you may give it a Reading and Consider it.

I suppose this Subject will be one amongst others, which will be opened at Onondaga, to which I shall give such an Answer as will leave a Reserve for your Directions and Opinions. Trade is the principal hinge upon which the Encrease and Extention of His Majestys Indian Interest must turn. at all times it will require a very observant Eye. In the Present Conjuncture of Affairs, it is a Point that requires to be very delicately touched. A Blunt refusal would be fatal. Conditional Promises I apprehend will at Present be the most adviseable Medium.

I am by no Means for pushing an open unrestrained Trade with the Indians, untill they

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have given incontestible Proofs that the Effects of that Trade will not be made use of against us.

Thus, Sir, I must leave this important Subject untill the result of this Meeting at Onondago throws more Light upon it, when I will give you my further Sentiments thereon.—

Capt. Wraxall is with me, and I shall detain him as little as I possibly can from the Duties of his Militar Station, tho' I could wish some Satisfactory Expedient could be fallen on that he might be wholly with me in his Department of Secretary for Indian Affairs, as a Variety of Inconveniences and Obstructions do, and must arise to his Majestys Service as well as to himself by these two Departments clashing and obstructing each other.

In my Letter of the 13th. Inst. I answered Your Excellency upon my collecting as large a Body of Indians as I possibly can, to Aid His Majestys Arms, in making an Irruption into Canada.— I shall have this Matter constantly before me, and prosecute it to the utmost of My Powers, at the approaching Meeting at onondaga, which will give me a lucky Opportunity of pushing that Point.

It is possible our Indian Affairs may speedly wear a More favourable Aspect, when

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it will be Absolutely necessary that I be supplied with a Store of Proper Indian Arms, Guns, Pistols, and Cutlasses, at all Events, I shall want a Numbers of them, and where to get them I know not. — I formerly gave into my Lord Loudoun a List of these, and a Proper Assortment of other Goods, for the Indians, which his Lordship promised to write for to England, which would save the Crown a great sum of Money, for the Prices here are extravagantly high.

I have heard nothing of this Affair since.

I have a great many Guns by me, which are useless for want of repairs, and Many daily returned me which want Mending. Could Your Excellency order a Gun Smith and Tools hither, I am very much distressed for want of one, and it would save a great deal of Money.

I am obliged to your Excellency for promising to grant me a Warrant for my three Years Salary, I am in want of it —

My Commission from Genl. Braddock bears Date the 15th. of April 1755 which to the 15th Inst. amounts to £1800 Sterlg. You will see in my other Letter of this Date that I have hinted

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at the Confusion which may arise in Indian Affairs by the Party Spirit which rages in Pennsylvania being introduced in Indian Negotiations

I am well informed the Quakers have a very considerable private Fund of their own for treating with the Indians, that they hold private and separate Meetings with them, and are pushing a System of their own, which none but themselves know the Bottom of; this I apprehend is in itself flagrantly illegal, and will I am convinced, not only confound, but prehaps render ineffectual, what the Govr. and his Council may Plan and propose, and whilst Indian Affairs are thus subjected to Party Views and Opposition, Your Excellency may easily foresee the fatal Consequences which may result from it, if they Draw into their Circle, and as both Parties seem desirous of Doing, any extencive Indian Negotiations, Matters being thus circumstanced, I can see little Advantage which would arise from my sending Mr. Croghan or any other Person thither.

What extraordinary Steps the Quakers have taken, a Paper I transmitted you Last Winter, to send my Lord Loudoun, very evidently shows, and I think it of so interesting a

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Nature that least it should have escaped Your Memory, I will herewith send you another Copy. how far such Messages & Declarations may tend to obstruct His Majestys Service and fataly wound the Success of his Arms. I humbly submitt to your judgment, but at the same Time, I must beg Leave to Declare to you that if these Sort of Negotiations, with the 6 Nations are permitted with Impunity to be privately carried on without my Know=ledge or Concurrance, I cannot answer for the consequences, nor carry on that Service which His Majesty hath been pleased to com=mitt to my Care and Attention.

The Affair appears to me in a Light of the utmost Moment, especially at this Juncture, and I thought it my in=dispensible Duty to lay it before Your Excellency, His Majesty's Commander in Chief, as I conceive it comes with great propriety within the Reach of your immediate Power, for I am sensible Governor Denny is by far too weak to give any effectual Check or Controll to these Interferings of the Quakers

I am with the greatest respect

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Your Excellency's

Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant,

Wm. Johnson -

To His Excellency

Major General Abercromby &c &ca

Copy.

Endorsed Copy| Letter from Sr. Wm. Johnson | to M. G. Abercromby No. 2.| 28th April 1758.| in M.G. Abercromby's of May 24: | 1758 | 22.

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Fort Johnson 26th. April 1758.

Arrived Canaghquayeson & Nicolasa two Onieda Chiefs and acquainted Sir William that they were sent, Express by the 6 Nations and desired a hearing, when Accordingly they were called.

Prest.

Sir William Johnson Bart.

George Croghan Esqr.

Lieut Claus Dept. Secty.

Jacobus Clement Interpreter.

Canaghquayeson spoke & said

Brother.

We came here to let you know, in the Name of our Confederacy, that they are now ready to hold the Meeting at Onondaga so long proposed and now it is for certain to take Place, within 12 Days hence. — We therefore were sent Express to invite you, and your Bretherns the Mohocks to it whom we beg you will acquaint thereof; We have in our Passing Connojohary acquainted that Castle with our Message & given them an Invitation. We can assure you that the Road is now clear and every Obstacle removed from it; wherefore we hope you will not make any Delay, but

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set out as soon as Possible, as we expect before we can reach Onondaga the rest of the Nations will be Assembled there - the Mohocks Connojoharys and several Nations from Susquahanna River, are to rendevous at Onieda within 9 Days when we are to join them & march in a Body to Onondaga

Gave a Belt

Fort Johnson 28th. April

Sir William Johnsons Answer to the invitation of the 6 Nations Deliverd him the 26th. Instant

Bretherens

I have considerd the Invitation you made me two Days ago in the Name of the 6 Nations desiring I would attend the approaching Meeting at Onondaga, and as I hope they would not have given me this Invi=tation, unless their Resolutions were such as will be favorable to the honour and Interest of the great King of England my Master, and your Father. - under these Expectations I do accept of your Invitations will give my timely Attandance and Acquaint the Mohocks of this Castle with it, that they may accompany me.

A true Copy from the Original Minutes examined by Me

Peter Wraxall

Copy

Secr.y Indian Affairs

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Fort Johnson 29 Jan.ry 1758.–

Present

Sir William Johnson Bar.t

George Croghan Esq.r

Lieu.t Claas Dep.y Secr.y

Cap.t Montour Interp.r

A Tuscarore Chief, having given the following Intelligence to Sir William when he was at Connajohery, he now repeated it and is as follows,–

Brother Warraghyjaghey.–

An Invitation came late in the Fall from the Quakers of Pennsylvania to the 6 Nations Desiring they would meet them early in the Spring at Lancaster, and at the same time acquainted them – that by the Invitation was only meant One or two Sachems of each Nation, as the Design of the Meeting was by no means to promote or transact any Warlike Buisness that they were the Descendants of the first Onas (meaning M.r W.m Penn) and determined to have no hand in the Present War but to keep up to the Treaties of Peace their Forefathers entered into with the Indians

They (the Quakers said

"Bretheren

"Many of the People of this Province have

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"been killed this War, yet we have never looked
"up, nor ever intend to take up a Hatchet to
"revenge the Blood which hath been Spilt, nor
"do we Charge the 6 Nations with it therefore
"we must earnestly desire, the 6 Nations to
"send Deputies to speak with us and renew
"the Treaties of Peace so long subsisting between
"us.

a Belt.—

"Bretheren

"The present War between the English and
"French does not concern us It was entered into
"beyond the great Seas by the two great Kings
"of England & France we have nothing to do
"nor will we concern ourselves about it. We
"are resolved to pursue the Rules our Ancestors
"laid down to us.

"Bretheren

"We know the six Nations were always
"a Warlike People, and we have consider'd their
"present Situation, as they sit between the two
"contending Powers, no Doubt they are very bare
"of every Necessary, we want therefore to talk
"with you & know your Resolutions. If you
"incline to carry on a War against any
"Nation, we have every thing fit to kill Men

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"with in Plenty, such as Guns, Swords, hatchets
"Powder, Lead, Clothing, and Provissions which
"we are ready to furnish you with.

"We know if you once begin a War,
it will last till you conquer or are conquered.

"If you should Determine to Strike
"the English you must kill the Soldiers onley
"and not us, for we have no hand in the
"War, nor will we concern our selves with it,
"but supply you with everything in Plenty, as
"we have enough. And if you should Determine
"to strike the French, we will likewise furnish
"You Plentifully with every thing for that Purpose.

"This, Bretheren," is our Resolution which
"we now acquaint you with, and for that
"purpose call you here to consult with you, &
"settle those Matters as we expect no more Blood
"will be Shed in this Province, but if the
"War should continue & you engage in it,
"You may kill Men enough in other Parts of
"the Country, without coming here.

Gave a 2d. Belt.

NB. The above Speeches were sent Down by the 6 Nations to be Delivered to the Mohawks and were brought by Sequareesere the chief Sachem of Tuscurors and Delivered

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to Sir William Johnson at Connojohary in the presence of George Croghan Esqr. Capt. Mountour Interpr. and several Connojohary Sachems.

A True Extract from the Orignal Minutes
Examd. by me
Peter Wraxall.
Secy. Indn. Affairs
Copy

Endorsed Copy | Message from the Quakers | of Pennsylvania to the | 6 Nations. | Enclosed in Sr. Wm. No. 2 April 28. 1758 | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24. | 1758 | 24.

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A Report of the Present State of His Majesty's Indian Interest Relative to the Six Nations, and the Indians of the Northern District, by Sr. William Johnson. —

I have Reason to believe that the Six Nations, and particularly the upper ones, alarmed at the present interesting Situation of Affairs upon this Continent, have shook off that Inattention to their former Alliances and Connections with various Nations of Indians, (with which Neglect I have repeatedly and warmly reproached them) and in Consequence thereof have for a considerable Time past, been diligently carrying on very extensive Negotiations. This I apprehend hath produced some System or Plan, by an Adherence to, or an Execution of, which, they propose rendering themselves too formidable to dread either any ill Consequences to them, or their Allies, from a Neutral System, if they are determined to abide by that; or to give such a Weight, to whichever Side they may declare, and act on, as not to fear the Other. — And this, I apprehend, Sir, is the grand Point to be debated and determined on in the Present Congress at Onondaga, the Result of which may be very important, both to us and the French in

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the present War upon this Continent.—

I am promised to have what passes at this great Meeting, and the Determinations thereupon, made known to me when it breaks up; Till which Time I look upon his Majesty's Indian Interest to be in a State of Suspence.

I have alredy Transmitted You some Private Intelligence I have received, relative to this Meeting, and if that is to be depended on, We may hope very favorable Things from the Indians. In such Case I am inclined to believe a considerable Body of Indians will act against the French upon their own Plan in a seperate Body, and in another Part from Our Army; However I question not but I may then be able to bring or send into the Field between 4 & 500. Indians.—

Shou'd the System proposed at Onondaga be a Neutrality, I apprehend some of Our more Neighbouring Nations will not fall into it, and that I may even then be able to muster near 300. to join His Majesty's Arms, towards Canada by Way of Lake George.—

But shou'd the Indians at this Congress unfortunately determine to join the French against us; I cannot take upon me to say, how extensive it's Influence may

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reach, or what Numbers in such Case wou'd adhere to us. —

Endorsed Report of the Present State of | his Majesty's Indian Interest, | relative to the Six Nations & the | Indians of the Northern District; | by Sr. William Johnson. — | in M. G. Abercromby's of May 24. | 1758 | 25. —

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Albany May 27th. 1758.

Sir,

Since My Letter of the 22d. Colo. Delancey, with nine more Companies of the New York Pro: vincials, have joined us, but the Lieut. Governor of that Province, has not been able to prevail on the Council, to advise impressing of Arms, which, he says, he knows no Law to empower him; that however, he has wrote a very Civil Letter to the Mayor and Aldermen, which, he hopes, will persuade them out of their 1000 Stand, tho' they sigh when he talks to them of it. —

The President of the Jerseys, in Answer to my last, acquaints me, that he has order'd the strict: est Enquiry to be made for Arms, & finds them excessive scarce; that he hopes, he shall be able to procure one Hundred fit for the Service, but dispairs of getting more; & that they shall be sent with the Troops, who shall have orders to march directly. — This Letter bears Date the 11th May, but did not reach me till within these four Days. —

Govr. Fitch of Connecticut, in his Letter of the 20th; which I received the 23d. tells me, that the Assembly, before mine came to Hand, had made and were making Provision, for compleating the

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Levies, & furnishing them with Arms, and that the Orders, which were then passed, wou'd forthwith be carried into Execution. — That, as the Assembly is much concerned to forward & render the Service effectual, he is desired to order the Forces already raised, to be equipped, and march with all possible Dispatch; wherefore, he had given out orders accordingly, that one Officer of every Company not full, tarry to compleat their Companies, & then immediately to follow and join them; The Numbers raised, he says, is between 3 & 4,000, & that it is probable the Residue may be supplied, even before the others can possibly march, as the Detatchments are forthwith to be made. —

Gov.r Pownall writes me, that he has issued his final Orders for the Marching the Massachusetts Forces, and that he imagines the first Body of them will be at Scorticook on the 30th. of this Month. — He further observes, that as he cou'd not venture upon the Step of an Impress without forming an Order in Council, he immediately called one, laid my Letter before them, and enclosed me the Advice they formed, (of which You herewith have a Copy,) in Consequence of which, he had wrote to all Colonels, to use their most speedy and utmost Endeavours to procure

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Arms upon the Conditions proposed, but on no Account to delay marching.

Gov.r Pownall, likewise acquaints me, that Admiral Boscawen, with his Squadron, arrived at Halifax the 9th Inst.; On which, Sir, permit me to congratulate you. —

The Ship which has the Additional Company of Lord John Murray's Regiment on board, and which was missing, when I had the Honour of writing to You by the Hampshire, did, I find by the New York Prints, arrive at Antigua the 23.d April, after having sprung two Leaks; having lost her Mizen Mast; & having been attacked three Times by Privateers which she kept off with small Arms; Her Name is the Anandale, Captain Johnson. —

By my Circular Letter of the 8th of this Month, I directed the Embargo to be taken off the 22.d; my Reason for continuing it till then, tho' the Convoys were sailed for Halifax, was, to prevent a Desertion of the Provincial Troops, which probably wou'd have been the Consequence, had it been taken off sooner, than we might expect a Junction; and, that all the Ports on the Continent, might be open at one and the same Time.

I have the Honor to be, with the Greatest Regard, Sir,

Your most obedient, & most Humble Servant

James Abercromby

The Right Hon.ble William Pitt Esq.r —

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At a Council held at the Council Chamber in Boston, upon the 9th Day of May. 1758 –

His Excellency the Governor, having laid before the Board General Abercromby's Letter of the 13th May, recommending the impressing of Arms for the Troops of the Province under his Command,

The Council were of Opinion, that the procuring Arms by impress, wou'd occasion so great a Delay of the March of the Troops, as wou'd be exceedingly prejudicial to His Majesty's Service; And,

Advise His Excellency, to order the several Colonels, to use their Endeavours to collect all the Serviceable Arms, they can procure within the Regiments of Militia, from which their Men are raised, and to prevail on as many Men as they can, to take their own Arms with them, and assure them that any inevitable Loss or Damage, shall be made good, and that His Excellency will use his Interest to obtain a proper Consideration for the use or Loan of them.

Copy Attest.

Thos Clarke Dpty Secry

Copy

Endorsed Copy. – /Minute of Council/ Boston May 19th 1758. / Enclosed in Gov. Pownalls Letter of /same Date./ in M. G. Abercromby's of / May 27th 1758.

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May 31, 1758

New York.

Sir

You was so kind when I had last the Pleasure of Seeing you in England as to give me Leave to write you whenever I had any thing in Particular that Concerned myself. upon my Arrival here I found that Lord Loudon had ordered about 200 Boats to be built at Albany for some Expedition he had formed, & the Direction of them given to Lt Coll. Bradstreet, these Boats were near finished when I arrived, but as the Present Plan is much more extensive it has been thot. proper to encrease that Number to 1500 all which are now finished and gone up to Fort Edward. General Abercrombie has thot. proper to employ me at Boston in Embarking two Regiments for Hallifax & now here, in procure=ing materials, for equiping two Vessells he intends to Build on Lake Champlain & has Continued Lt. Coll Bradstreet in that Department which I was appointed to; So that I hope I shall soon procure Leave to return to the Fleet — The General has inform'd me that he has no directions about my Pay, he supposes I am to Draw for it upon some of the Offices in England, if that is the Case, I shd. esteem it a Particular Favr. if you would inform me by the first Opportunity, upon what

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Office & in what Manner I am to draw, as I can receive no Pay till that is settled. I am extremely sorry to say that our Affairs does not wear so good a Face as I could have wished them, I always depended upon our being at Lake George by the 10th May, & to have been able to have marched from there the first of June but that cannot happen this Year as it is now the last Day of May and not all the Provisions & Stores got so far as Fort Edward at this Time. — General Abercrombie is yet at Albany, Lord How is up at fort Edward forwarding the Provisions to Lake George he is indefatigable in every thing he undertakes & the very Spirit & Life of the Army: The whole of the Provisions & Stores may possibly be got to Lake George by the Last of June, by which Time the French may have a Supply of Provisions & Stores which at Present they are in a Manner destitute of. The Difference between attacking the Enemy in this Country early in the Year, or late, I am afraid will be found to be very great; not But what I think, we have still a very good Prospect of getting Possession of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, but that was not the Place I hope to have stopd at when I left England, Admiral Boscawen by the last advices from him was to sail from Hallifax about the

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17th May So that I am afraid the Scheem of Blocking up the River St Laurence will be too late, there already is 7 or 8 Sail of Ships got into Louisbourg but I hope we shall succeed notwithstanding, no Armes nor Tents have yet arrived for the Provincials, and it is very Certain we cannot move one Inch farther without them I hope in God our affairs before the next Pacquett sails will be in a Better Situation When I left England Mr Pitt desired me to write him by all Opportunities, I hope he will excuse my not writing by this Packett, as I could not inform him of any thing that could give him much Pleasure,

I am Sr your most obedt
Humble Servt
Josa Loring

To James Rivers Esqr

Endorsed New York / Capn Loring / J R. / Re July 4th 1758.

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Camp at Lake George.
June 29th 1758.

Sir,

The last Letter I had the Honour to write to You was dated the 27th of May from Albany, where I left Mr Appy, my Secretary, with the Office Papers, not judging it prudent to trust them in this Wild Part of the Country, liable to so many Accidents, & that He might be in a more Centrical & Convenient Place, to carry on the Correspondence with the Governors, & others, which is an immense Labour, of all which, as well as of other Matters, relative to the Publick Service, I have directed him to transmit a full Account to Mr Wood, and I shall content myself with mentioning to You some of the most material Particulars.

After giving the necessary Orders for forwarding the Stores and Provisions as well as the Provincial Troops, I set out from Albany for Fort Edward on the 7th of this Month, and arrived there the 9th, where Lord Howe was en=camped with the 42d 44th & 55th Regts with 4 Companies of Rangers. — The Remainder of the Regular Troops, occupied the Posts below on the Hudson's River, and were working up the

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Stores, Provisions, & Batteaux, untill they cou'd be relieved by the Provincials, which was not fully accomplished till the 17th when Col. Haldimand arrived with the 4.th Battn of the Royal Americans. On that Day Lord Howe also marched to the Brook half Way between Fort Edward and the Lake, with the 42d. 44th & 55th Regts together with the New Jersey Regiment, 3 Companies of Rangers, and the Stockbridge Indians, escorting 173 Ox Teams, with Provisions, 90. Waggons each carrying a Battoe, & 38 Whale Boats on Trucks, (long Carriages with low Wheels,) drawn by Men. — (This Half-Way-Brook was judged a proper Post for the first Deposite in a Portage of 15 Miles.) And after the Carriages had made several Trips, Lord Howe advanced to the Lake with the 42d. 44th & 55th Regiments, & every Day since Convoys with Boats, Provisions, & Stores, have been dispatched. From the Care that has been taken in furnishing Escorts none of the Convoys have been Attacked, notwithstanding frequent Parties of the Enemy have been out. And to continue this Security, I have been obliged to leave 200 Men at the Half-Moon; 200, at Still Water; 200 at Saratoga; & 200 at the great Falls, formerly called Fort Miller. — During this Space, Part of

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the Provincial Troops arrived daily at Fort Edward; to satisfy their Demands &ca., made it necessary for me to remain there till the 21st. which Day I arrived at this Place; where almost all the Men off of Duty are employ'd in different Works; The Principal is making a Stockaded Post, where the late Fort Stood, and another Work of the same Kind on the Rising Ground where the Intrenched Camp was last Year, both these Works were absolutely necessary to be thrown up for the Security of the Provisions, as well as the Detatchment, that must be left here, to escort the Convoys between Fort Edward & this, when the Troops move from this; ‑ And we judge them the best Security the Time will allow us to make, they being secure against any Irregulars — I must also observe, that the Batteaus must inevitably have suffer'd in the different Portages, & working up the Stream, (which are repairing as fast as possible.) insomuch that we cou'd not begin till Yesterday to embark the Artillery Stores, which require the most Time and Exactness. —

The Men and the Provisions will take but a short Time to embark, but as yet not one Half of the Provincials, which I propose to take

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with me, are Arrived. — There are but 500 of the Connecticut Troops at this Place, and not a single Man of the New Hampshire-men, or Rhode-Islanders. You will also see by the Return the Deficiencies of the Massachusets' Bay - You have a Return of what are here, they are deficient of what they voted; which none of their Colonels can ascertain, till those on their March to join their Respective Corps arrive here.

We have here about 800. Batteaux, each of which will carry 22 Men, with 30 Days Provisions, & 90 Whale Boats, which will carry Ten Men each, without Provisions.

You will see by the enclosed Return the State of the Regular Troops, including Col. Gage's Light-Infantry, & the Rangers, which do not exceed 6370. Men, fit for service, Officers included. — I have left two Additional Companies of Lord John Murray's, with four Companies of Provincials, computed at 100 each, to garrison Fort Edward; and one Company of the Royal Americans, for the Duty in Albany, as no Provincials would venture to serve there, on Account of the Small Pox. — The other Additional Company of the 42., which was blown into Antego, I hear, is arrived at New York, which I have order'd up to Albany. — And the 4

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New York Independent Companies are stationed, with 1400. Provincials and a Company of Rangers for the Protection of the Mohawk River to be commanded by Brig^r. Stanwix, to whom I have, from Time to Time, sent full Instructions for his Guidance. — If any thing Material should happen in that Quarter, during my Absence, he will acquaint You with it himself — The Principal Instruction is to take Post at the Oneida Carrying Place, which I apprehend will not only Cover that Country, but enable them to send out large Scouts, to annoy the Enemy, and remove all the Fears and Objections, the 5 Nations have raised against their joining us, upon whom to this Hour, I cannot depend for a single Man, as You will see by S^r. William Johnson's & my Correspondence on that Subject, upon which I apprehend I need make no further Comment, Thus, Sir, You see the State of things in this Quarter.

On the 8th two French Deserters from the Regiment La Reine came into Fort Edward from Tienderoga, & gave us an Account, that they had landed with their Regim^t. there from Quebec, on the 5th & that they heard, that the other Regiments, that had been in Winter-Quarters above Quebec, were daily expected. — The Intelligence they

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gave was in a great Measure confirmed by Captain Rogers, who returned on the 17th from a Scout. — Two days before he had a clear View of Ticonderoga from the Hill between Lake-George & Wood-Creek, which not only overlooks the Fort, but a Part of Lake Champlain. — From this Eminence he perceived an Encampment of three Regiments & about 100 Batteaux coming up the Lake, as well as a good Number of Men lying on the Banks, just disembarked; Not content with this Discovery, & out of Zeal for the Service, He, contrary to his Instructions, proceeded with his Whale-Boats too far down the Lake, & fell in with a Superior Force, and was obliged to retreat, with the Loss of 5 Men killed, & 3 taken, amongst the latter Ensign Downing of the 55th who went out as a Volunteer. This was an unlucky Affair, as they must learn a great Deal from these Prisoners. In Order to get a Prisoner, & to gain Intelligence where the Enemy are posted, we have sent out other Scouts, & as they have exceeded the Time limitted to them, we are in Pain about them. —

On the 19th of this Month, a Lieutenant, a Drum, & 20 Men, came with a Flagg of Truce from Ticonderoga, with a Letter from the Marquis de Vaudreuil in Answer to one from me, touching the Exchange of Colonel

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Schuyler, Captain Lieut. Martin of the Artillery, & Surgeon Stakes — This Flagg of Truce was first brought into a Camp about Half Way betwixt Fort Edward & Lake George, where Lord Howe commanded; His Lordship having sent them on to Fort Edward, I thought it proper to detain this French Party, until we were on the Lake, as they had seen too much before they got to Fort Edward: — And further, as the the (sic) Marquis de Vaudreuil has taken up the Capitulation made the 9th of August last at Fort William Henry, in a high Tone, (as You will see by his Letter to me of the 4th Instant,) I have in Return signified to the Marquis, that I look upon that Capitulation as null & void, a Measure the more necessary as there are several amongst the Regulars, as well as amongst the Provincials, serving here and to the Eastward, who in the sence of the Governor of Canada, are comprehended in that Capitulation — Upon which Subject I send You a Copy of my Letter to the Marquis de Vaudreuil. —

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I have had no Intelligence from the Eastward, since the Troops sailed from Halifax — the Last Letter is of the 12th of May from Mr Boscawen, wherein he says: "By the

"Returns of the Army here made me. We are more
"than 2000 Men deficient of the Number proposed
"in England, and near one Company of the
"Train; but I conclude this to be a wrong Calcu-
-lation of the Strength of the Regimt. Indeed
it is so, from the very Face of the Returns
exhibited to him, for by inspecting the very
Returns the Admiral referrs to, I find that
including the Commission & Non Commission
Officers the Returns of the Regiments then in
Nova Scotia, exclusive of Kennedy's Regt. amount
to 14032. – And so far from being short of
Artillery Men, by this Return they have 48
more than their Complement, which was origin-
-ally intended to be but 330 agreable to the
Disposition of His Majesty's Forces which You
did me the Honor to send me in Your Letter
of the 30th December last. – And by that Dis-
-position there were allotted to this Department
7947 Regulars, including 214 of the Royal Regi-
-ment of Artillery, 100 of which I parted with to
make up the Complement required for the Enter-
-prize to the Eastward; So that we have but
124 of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, & 5950
Regulars, Officers included. As these Remarks
of Deficiencies from Halifax may have gone home

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together with the Returns, I cou'd not help troub-
-ling You with these Observations, in my own justification, having in no Respect diminished the Force allotted for the Siege of Louisbourg; & indeed considering the great Force, both by Sea & Land, every Thing of this Kind might have been spared upon this Occasion.—

I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient and most

Humble Servant

James Abercromby

The Rt. Honble. William Pitt, Esqr.—

Endorsed Camp at Lake George June/29th. 1758?
M. G. Abercromby / Re Augt. 20th. by Capt. Cunningham

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Return of the present State of his Majesty's Forces under the

Regiments	Battalions	No. of Companies	Colonel's Names	Officers Present: Commissioned: Colonels	Lieut Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Staff: Chaplains	Adjutants	Qr Masters	Surgeons	Mates	Non-Commissioned: Serjeants	Drummers
27			Lieut General Lord Blakeney		1	1	6	9	9	..	1	1	1	1	25	19
42		10	Lieut General Lord John Murray		1	1	8	18	7	1	1	1	1	2	40	18
44			Major General Abercrombie	1	1	1	7	19	6	..	1	1	1	2	38	12
46			Lieut^t General Thomas Murray	..	1	1	8	9	9	..	1	1	1	1	28	16
55			Brigadier General Lord Howe	1	1	1	7	10	7	..	1	1	1	1	30	20
60	1	6	Brigadier General Stanwix	..	..	1	5	9	5	..	1	..	1	1	24	11
	4		James Prevost	..	1	1	6	13	8	1	1	1	1	2	37	20
			Col^o Gage's Light Infantry	1	..	..	5	9	5	..	..	..	1	..	20	5
			Rangers	..	..	1	7	13	7	..	..	..	..	..	29	.
			Total	3	6	8	59	109	63	2	7	6	8	10	271	121?

Endorsed Return of the present State / of the Regular / in M. G. Abercromby's of June / 29th 1758

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immediate Command of his Excell^y Maj^r Genl Abercrombie at Lake George. June 29th 1758.

Effective Rank & File: Present fit for Duty	Sick Present	In Genl Hospital	Recommended	Recruiting	On Command	Prisoners with the Enemy or Missing	On Furlough	Total	Wanting to compleat: Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Since last Return: Recruited	Recommended	Dead	Discharged	Deserted	Join'd: Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File
602	7	34	5	1	12	3	..	664	..	1	66	..	..	4	..	..	2	1	156
981	11	6	..	..	2	..	..	1000	..	1	40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
888	31	38	13	..	..	..	..	970	..	..	70	1	..	1	..	5	3	3	136
633	7	22	1	..	..	1	..	665	..	1	65	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
651	6	25	1	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	47	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
504	23	32	..	..	3	..	6	568	..	1	52	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
670	39	123	11	..	85	..	4	932	..	..	108	3	..	4	..	1	..	..	3
359	30	14	..	..	..	..	..	403	..	..	117	1	..	2	..	13	..	..	..
416	6	59	..	..	21	9	9	520	..	..	180	..	..	4	27	15	..	..	..
5704	160	353	31	1	123	13	19	6405	..	4	745	5	..	17	28	35	5	4	295

James Abercromby.

Troops / Encamped at Lake George 29th June 1758

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Return of the Provincial Troops at Lake George

Provinces	Colonels	Colonels	Lieut. Colonels	Majors	Captains
Massachusets	Coll. Ruggles	1	..	1	7
	Coll. Doty	1	1	1	8
	Coll. Prebles	1	1	1	5
	Coll. Will.m Williams	1	..	1	5
	Coll. Partridge Light Infantry	1	..	1	4
New York	Coll. De Lancey	3	1	3	17
New Jersey	Coll. Johnston	1	1	1	8
Connecticut	Coll. Fitch	1	..	..	5
	Total	10	4	9	61

Endorsed Return of the present State / of the / 29th June 1758. / in M. G. Abercromby's of June

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June 29th 1758.

Lieutenants	Ensigns	Chaplains	Adjutants	Qur. Masters	Surgeons	Mates	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File: Present fit for Duty	Rank & File: Sick Present	Rank & File: Detained to the Battoes	Rank & File: Total Rank & File	Total of each Regt. Officers included
11	6	1	1	.	1	2	29	12	377	..	.	377	449
16	8	..	1	..	..	1	36	13	772	11	..	783	869
16	..	..	1	..	1	2	23	4	456	14	..	470	525
15	..	1	1	.	1	1	26	14	471	26	..	497	563
10	5	..	..	..	..	..	20	..	389	12	.	401	442
41	..	..	..	..	2	4	72	5	1291	74	200	1565	1715
13	7	1	1	..	1	1	40	..	616	31	200	847	922
14	.	.	..	.	..	..	29	9	409	9	..	418	475
136	26	3	5	..	6	11	245	57	4781	177	400	5358	5960

James Abercromby.

Provincial Troops Encamped at Lake George
129th 1758.

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Camp at Lake George, July 12th 1758.

Sir,

The Embarkation of the Artillery, Stores and Provisions being compleated, on the Evening of the 4th Instant; next Morning, at Break of Day, the Tents were struck; and all the Troops, amounting to 6367 Regulars, Officers, Light-Infantry, and Rangers included, & 9024 Provincials, including Officers & Batteau-Men, embarked in about 900 Batteaux & 135 Whale-Boats; the Artillery, to cover our Landing, being mounted on Rafts.

At 5 in the Evening, reached Sabbath-Day-Point, (25 Miles down the Lake,) where we halted till ten; then got under Way again, & Proceeded to the Landing Place, (a Cove leading to the French advanced Guard,) which we reached early next Morning, the 6th

Upon our Arrival, sent out a Reconnoitring Party, and having met with no Opposition, landed the Troops; formed them in four Columns, Regulars in the Center, and Provincials on the Flanks, and marched towards the Enemy's Advanced-Guard, composed of one Battalion, posted in a logged Camp, which, upon our Approach, they deserted, first setting Fire to their Tents & destroying every

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Thing they cou'd; but as their Retreat was very precipitate, they left several Things behind, which they had not Time either to burn, or carry off; in this Camp, we likewise found one Prisoner and a dead Man. —

The Army, in the foregoing Order, continued their March thro' the Wood, on the West Side, with a Design to invest Ticonderoga; but the Wood being very thick, impassable with any Regularity to such a Body of Men, and the Guides unskilful, the Troops were bewilder'd, and the Columns broke, falling in one upon another. —

Lord Howe at the Head of the Right Center Column, supported by the Light Infantry, being advanced, fell in with a French Party supposed to consist of about 400 Regulars, and a few Indians, who had likewise lost themselves in their Retreat from the advanced Guard; of these our Flankers killed a great many, & took 148 Prisoners; among whom were five Officers & three Cadets. —

But this small Success cost us very dear, not as to the Loss of Numbers, for we had only two Officers killed, but as to Consequence, His Lordship being the first Man that fell in this Skirmish; and as he was very deservedly, universally beloved

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and respected throughout the Whole Army, it is easy to conceive the Grief and Consternation his untimely Fall occasioned; For my Part, I cannot help owning, that I felt it most heavily, and lament him as sincerely. — I caused his Body to be taken off the Field of Battle, and sent to Albany, with a Design to have had it embalmed, & sent home, if his Lordships Relations had approved of it; but the Weather being very hot, Brigr Stanwix was obliged to order it to be buried. –

The Army, as I observed before, being dispersed, and Night coming on fast, I collected such Part of it as were within my Reach, & posted them under the Trees, where they remained all Night under Arms. —

The 7th, in the Morning, having yet no Intelligence of the Troops that were missing, (being several Regiments) not knowing which Way they had gone; Our Intelligence uncertain, Our Guides ignorant, & the Troops with me greatly fatigued, by having been one whole Night on the Water, the following Day constantly on Foot, & the next Night under Arms, added to their being in Want of Provision, having dropped what they had brought with them, in Order to lighten themselves, it was thought most Advisable to return

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to the Landing Place, which we accordingly did, and upon Our Arrival there, about 8 that Morning, found the Remainder of the Army.

About 11 in the Forenoon, sent off Lieut. Colo. Bradstreet, with the 44th Regiment, 6 Companies of the 1st Battalion of Royal Americans, the Batteau Men, and a Body of Rangers, & Provincials to take Possession of the Saw Mill, within two Miles of Ticonderoga; which he soon effected, as the Enemy who were posted there, after destroying the Mill & breaking down their Bridge, had retired some time before.

Lieut. Colo. Bradstreet having laid another Bridge across, and having sent me Notice of his being in Possession of that Ground, I accordingly marched thither with the Troops, & we took up our Quarters there that Night.—

The Prisoners we had taken, being unanimous in their Reports, that the French had 8 Battalions, some Canadians and Colony Troops, in all about 6000 encamp'd before their Fort, who were intrenching themselves and throwing up a Breast Work; and that they expected a Reinforcement of 3000 Canadians, besides Indians, who had been detatched under the Command of Mr. de Levy, to make a Diversion on the Side of

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the Mohawk River; but upon Intelligence of Our Preparations & near approach, had been repeatedly recalled, & was hourly expected: It was thought most adviseable, to lose no Time in making the Attack, wherefore, early in the Morning of the 8th, I sent Mr Clerk, the Engineer, across the River on the opposite Side of the Fort, in Order to reconnoitre the Enemies Intrenchments.

Upon his Return, and favorable Report of the Practicability of carrying those Works, if attacked before they were finished, it was agreed to storm them that very Day; Accordingly the Rangers, Light Infantry, and the Right wing of Provincials were Order'd immediately to march and post themselves in a Line out of Cannon Shot of the Intrenchments, their Right extending to Lake George, & their Left to Lake Champlain in order that the Regular Troops destined for the Attack of the Intrenchments, might form in their Rear.

The Picquets were to begin the Attack, sustained by the Grenadiers, & they by the Battalions, the whole were order'd to march up briskly, rush upon the Enemy's Fire, and not to give theirs, untill they were within the Enemies Breastwork.

After these Orders issued the Whole

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Army, except what had been left at the Landing Place to cover and guard the Batteaux & Whale Boats, and a Provincial Regiment at the Saw Mill, were put into Motion, and advanced to Tienderoga, where unfortunately they found the Intrenchments, not only much stronger than had been represented, & the Breast Work at least Eight or Nine Feet high, but Likewise the Ground before it cover'd with felled Trees, the Branches pointed outwards, which so fatigued & retarded the Advancing of the Troops, that notwithstanding all their Intrepidity & Bravery, which I cannot sufficiently commend, we sus=tained so considerable a Loss, without any prospect of better Success, that it was no longer prudent to remain before it, and it was there=fore judged necessary, for the Preservation of the Remainder of so many brave Men, & not to run the Risk of the Enemy's penetrating into His Majesty's Dominions, which might have been the Case if a Total Defeat had ensu'd, that we shou'd make the best retreat possible. Accordingly, after several repeated Attacks, which lasted upwards of four Hours, under the most disadvantagious Circumstances, and with the Loss of 1610 Regulars, 334 Provincials killed & wounded, as by the

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enclosed List, I retired to the Camp we occupied the Night before, with the broken Remains of several Corps, sending away all the wounded to the Batteaux about three Miles Distance, and early the next Morning, We arrived there ourselves embarked, and reached this in the Evening of the 9th.

Immediately after my Return here, I sent the wounded Officers and Men, that cou'd be moved to Fort Edward, & Albany, & having so many Officers unfit for present Service, it was judged impracticable, at this Time, to reattempt the Reduction of Ticonderoga & Crown Point; Wherefore it was thought adviseable, to divide our Numbers & to reinforce Brigr Stanwix, in Order, if possible, to prevent the Enemy from Putting into Execution their Designs against the Mohawk River & Coming down to Albany; I have accordingly detatched the New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, & a Regiment of the Massachusets Bay Troops, consisting with those already there, in a Body of 5600. Men, to take Post at the Oneida Carrying Place, for the Purpose mentioned in Mine of the 29th of June.—

And as Lieut. Col. Bradstreet remained of Opinion, that it was still practicable to succeed in his Plan against Cadaraqui, which he

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proposed last Winter to Lord Loudoun, I have given him the Command of 3600 of the above Men, to proceed with them from the Oneida Carrying Place, against that Fort; attempt the Reduction thereof, and destroy the Vessels they have lying there, or if neither of these Attempts shou'd prove practicable then to watch the Motions of Mr de Levy, & by engaging him, obstruct and prevent his advancing and penetrating towards the Oneida Carrying Place; in one or other of which I shou'd hope Lieut. Colo Bradstreet may prove successful, as he is not only very active, but has great Knowledge of the Country, & that I have provided him with every Thing he thought requisite for that Purpose.

This Plan being settled, it was likewise proposed, that two strong Forts, capable of Containing 500 Men each, shou'd be immediately built here, and at the Oneida Carrying Place. But as I do not apprehend, my Instructions extend to the building of Forts, and that the Expence of them woud run very high, I thought it best to defer them, untill I had the Honour of receiving his Majesty's Commands thereupon, & mean while I have order'd both these Posts to be strengthened with Blockhouses, & such other Works, as well

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make them sufficiently respectable for the Present, and put the Publick to but a small Expence, in which I hope I shall meet with my Royal Masters Approbation.

In my Letter of the 29th of June, I mentioned the great Delays of the Indians, & the little dependence to be had upon them of which You have several Instances in Mr. Appy's Letter to Mr Wood; but I must not at the same Time, omitt acquainting You, that on the Morning of the 8th the Day of the Action, Sr William joined me with about 300 Indians, who are all since returned, except a very few that were out upon a Scout, and Sir William, has followed them, in Order to be aiding and Assisting to Brigadier Stanwix

Under these Circumstances, which leave me the greatest Concern & Anxiety, I shall carefully watch the Motions of the Enemy, and prevent, as much as possible, their Reaping any Advantage from the Check we have met with. —

I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect,

Sir, / Your most obedient & most

Humble Servant,

James Abercromby.

The Right Honble William Pitt, Esqr.

Endorsed Camp at Lake George July / 12th 1758. / Majr Genl Abercromby. / Re Augt 20th by Capt. Cunningham.

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Albany 2d July 1758.

Sir,

Yesterday I had the honor to receive from General Abercromby, the enclosed packet for the Right Hon.ble Mr. Pitt, with directions, not to forward the same till further Orders, and that I should transmit, along with it, to You, a full Account of all matters relative to the Publick Service, since his last dispatches of the 22d. 24th & 27th of May; Duplicates of which, unsigned (by reason of the Generals absence) but attested go likewise by this Conveyance.

In obedience to these Commands, I am to Acquaint You, that some days after those Dispatches were closed, the General was reinforced with the Jersey Regiment, which he immediately sent up, to assist His Majestys Regular Forces and the New York Provincials in getting up to Fort Edward, and from thence to Lake George, the Batteaus, Provisions and Stores &ca; And in order to forward this business with Expedition and care, he prepared to set out himself, but was prevented from going so soon as he proposed, by a violent disorder in His Stomach, which detained him till the 7th of June; when, altho' far from being well, or even being Strengthned

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with any more Provincial Troops, he nevertheless proceeded on his March.

As Brigadier General Stanwix was still at New York, with a Company of the fourth Battalion of Royal Americans, waiting the arrival of the Store Ships from England, and charged with procuring sundry necessaries for the Provincial Troops, such as Arms, Tents &ca; General Abercromby left a Company of His Majestys Inneskilling Regiment at Albany, for the Protection of that place; and order'd Captain Gordon, who commanded them, to hasten up all the Provincials, as fast as they should drop in. — He likewise left directions with Captain Christie, the Assistant Deputy Quarter-Master General, to provide them with every thing requisite for their immediate March: and further to forward, with all possible dispatch, to Fort Edward, what other Stores and Provisions were still wanted there.

In the Evening of the day the General set out, arrived part of one of the Regiments of the Massachusetts Bay; and on the two Succeeding days, part of four more — from the 10th to the 12th, both inclusive, about Six Companies and a half of the Connecticut Troops; And from the 13th to the 20th as many more Massachusetts and Connecticuts,

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as made the whole amount to 7510 Men, of which I send You enclosed a return, that You may see, how slow and in what small numbers, they, particularly the Connecticut people, dropped in.

Altho' immediately upon their arrival, they received Orders directly to proceed to Fort Edward, and were accordingly provided with Arms and Tents, in proportion to their numbers and to what was then in Store, Yet it was not possible to move them. — In short they loitered so long, that the General, who had been punctually acquainted with their arrival and as exactly informed of their delays, wrote to Brigadier Stanwix, not to wait for the Store Ships, but to set out forthwith for Albany, in order to spur them on.

On Saturday the 17th the Brigadier not being come, having been detained by the arrival of the Store Ships; and but few of the above number of Provincials having moved, notwithstanding the many repeated Orders signified to them for that purpose; the General sent down his Brigade Major to renew these Orders, and to hasten them up with all Speed.

The Monday following arrived Brigadier Stanwix, and as he brought with him, both Arms

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and Tents sufficient to provide them all, they could now have no further Excuse to delay their March; Yet it was still some few days before they all set out. — Their dilatoriness, and the constant trifling demands they make, of sundries not provided by His Majesty, and that with no other view than cloaking their tardiness; is almost incredible, to those who have not the opportunity of being an Eye Witness to it; but it is so true that Governor Pownall himself complains of it heavily, and is much dissatisfied with several of his Officers; some of whom set out before their Regiments, and others not till after; by which means, several of the Men have been left straggling on the roads; many have never joined; and no longer ago than Eight days; there were numbers of them still at Boston, and places adjacent.

You will observe that among the above Troops, there are none either from New Hampshire or Rhode Island, altho' their Governors have, long since, been respectively directed to March them immediately.

Since the 20th near 500 Rhode Islanders and about 500 of the Newhampshire Men are come in, at different times, as also several more, from Massachusetts Bay & Connecticutt; but as I have

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not a return of them, I cannot give You their exact numbers, which I am afraid, after all, will not Answer those they have severally voted, as I learn, that they have not been able to compleat their Levies.

The Store Ships not arriving at New York till the 13th of June, has occasioned a very great additional Expence, for Arms and Tents; the cost of which, as well as that of the Batteaus; the Pay of the Carpenters and Batteau-Men; and the Provision Money to the Provincial Troops, from the day of their Enlistment, to that of their arrival at the place of rendezvous, from whence they would not Stir untill they had received it, have so drained the Military Chest that it is absolutely necessary, for His Majestys Service, that a fresh supply should be order'd from home.

As a further reason for it, I must not omit Acquainting You, that out of the Money brought in His Majestys Ship the Captain, £25,000 were stopped at Halifax; and that, out of that sent by the Namur, only £. 32,000 came to New York; upon the arrival of which, the Contractors Agents wrote to the Deputy Pay-Master-General here, that they had no prospect of any further Supplies coming out soon.

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In order therefore, not to hazard the want of Money for the Payment of the Subsistence of the Troops, against the same becomes due; to have wherewithall to defray, the many and various Contingencies incurr'd and daily incurring; as well as not to affect the Publick Credit; it has been judged for His Majestys Service, that no part of the small Stock, now at the call of the Deputy Pay Master General here, could for the present be spared to the Eastward.

In Consideration of which, the General is hopefull, that His Majesty will not disapprove, his having Excused himself to Lieutenant Governor Monckton, from sending the £12,000 he demanded of him for the Military Services of Nova Scotia, agreable to Mr Pitt's Letter of the 3d March, (which reached him at Fort Edward the 23d June) as it is apparent, that if he had complied therewith, the Service in these parts, was liable to great impedements

However, that the Services in Nova Scotia; might not suffer from the want of the above Sum, he directed me to acquaint Lieutenant Governor Monckton; that it was proper he should apply for the same to Major General Amherst; who, out of the Moneys stopped at Halifax as aforesaid, might have it in his power to furnish him, if not the whole, with at least part thereof,

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and thereby enable him to postpone the remainder, untill a fresh supply of Money should be sent out.

And as Lieutenant Governor Monckton had also desired to be Informed, in what manner, all Expences incurr'd for His Majestys Military Services in Nova Scotia, should be defrayed, I told him, By Warrant from the Person Commanding in Chief at Halifax, inlike manner as Major General Hopson had done during his late Command; which is by far the more eligible method, as that Person, from his being on the Spot, must be the best Judge of the Utility and Œconomy of those Services.

Altho' I have mentioned the receipt, of only one of Mr Pitts Letters of the 3. March, yet the other of the same date, is also come to the Generals hands; and he begs the favor of You, to make his Apologies to Mr Pitt, for not having himself, acknowledged being honoured with them: indeed You will think him the more Excusable for this Omission, when You consider him, in the midst of a Noisy Camp of Provincials and Stockbridge Indians, who are every half hour teazing him for the merest trifles; under which Circumstances, You can easily figure to Yourself, the impracticability of recollecting every thing, or even of digesting one's

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thoughts.

As the General in his Letter to Mr. Pitt, has mentioned the Flag of Truce from Mr. Vaudreuil, and the Steps he had taken thereupon, it is needless for me to trouble You with a repetition of it: but I cannot omit observing, that every person I have seen and conversed with upon this Measure, seem Confident of its propriety, and Express great Satisfaction thereat. — I shall perhaps, before this Letter is dispatched, be able to give You the sense of some of His Majestys Governors thereupon, as I have communicated the same, to those of Pensylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts Bay, New Hampshire and Nova Scotia, the last of whom I have requested, to Acquaint Admiral Boscawen and Major General Amherst therewith. — And Brigadier General Forbes has likewise been desired, to impart the same to the Governors of His Majestys Southern Provinces, within his Department.

Enclosed, You have Copies of Mr. Vaudreuils Letter to General Abercromby; of the Papers therein referred to; of the Orders Issued thereupon; And of the Generals Answer to Mr. Vaudreuil.

From General Abercrombys Letter on Indian Affairs, of the 24th of May last and from Sir William

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Johnsons Report therein enclosed. You have seen, that untill the Congress of Onondaga broke up, Sir William looked upon His Majestys Indian Interest, to be in a State of Suspense.

That, if the private Intelligence he had received, relative to this Meeting, could be depended on, we might hope very favorable things from the Indians; as in such case he was enclined to believe, a considerable body of them would Act against the French upon their own Plan, in a separate body, and in another part of Our Army; however he questioned not, he should then be able to send or bring into the Field between four and five hundred Indians.

That should the System proposed at Onondaga be a Neutrality, he apprehended some of Our more Neighbouring Nations would not fall into it; And that he might even then be able to muster near 300 to Join His Majestys Arms towards Canada by way of Lake George.

But should the Indians at this Congress, unfortunately determine to Join the French against Us; he could not take upon him to say how extensive it's Influence might reach, or what number in such Case would adhere to Us.

Upon the whole, in his Conversation with

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the General, he seemed Confident he should be able to Muster the 300, and desired he might only have three or four days Notice; but beg'd that, that notice might not be signified to him untill just before the going to Action, as there was no such thing, as to keep Indians for any time lying still in a Camp. — This being agreed to, Sir William Johnson returned to his House, in order to prepare his Indians, and to endeavor to learn the result of the Conference at Onondaga.

On the 3d of June, the General wrote to Sir William Johnson, that he intended to set out for Fort Edward in three days; that he should make as little stay there as possible, and then proceed to Lake George, where he should be glad, that Sir William would join him as soon as he could, with as many Indians as he should be able to Collect.

The fourth day thereafter, Sir William came himself to Albany, and found the General just ready to set out on his March; but the Chief end of his Journey, was to obtain a Warrant for his Appointments, from the day of the date of his Commission to the 24th June 1758; amounting to £1397. 13. 5. and another for £2000, on Account of sundries to Equip his Indians, without which, altho' not three Weeks before, he had had another for £1200 on the

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same Account, he said it would be impossible to get any Indians to Stir; to obviate which, the General immediately complied with his request.

This Point being settled, the General repeated to Sir William his Summons of the 3d; but the Conferences at Onondaga not being yet over, the answer was the same as the former; with this addition, that the constant Alarms at the Mohawk River, and the rumours of a considerable body of the Enemy intending an inroad that way, would make it difficult, to persuade the Indians in those Quarters to quit their Castles.

It is necessary to observe here, that notwithstanding these Alarms and rumours are very frequent, and have often proved, to have no other foundation than the fears and apprehensions of the Inhabitants; yet, out of Precaution and to quiet the Minds of those Inhabitants, the General, immediately upon notice thereof, (which was a few days before Sir Williams arrival,) had moved up several Companies of the New Yorkers; and he then told Sir William, that if this Intelligence should be repeated with any probality of truth, he would send such Additional Strength to the Mohawk River, as should be necessary to secure the Settlements and Inhabitants thereof, against any

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Insult that could be expected that way: And that meanwhile, he Sir William, should proceed to collect as many Indians as possible, that he might be ready to join him at the first call, which would be soon. and here they parted again.

By Sir William Johnsons Letter of the 18th it seems he had received one from the General of the 15th; as this was wrote from Fort Edward, and that I have not the Copy of it here, I cannot positively assert its Contents; but from the Answer, it appears that it must have been a Second Summons, and a dispensation to Sir William from Commanding the Indians in person, if he could be more significantly Employed his way: [meaning the Mohawk River] from which Dispen=sation, You will see by his Letter, he Excuses him=self, for the reasons therein set forth.

You will likewise see by that Letter, that many Indians of all the Six Nations were then at his House, and that they all seemed to concurr in Opinion, that a body of the Enemy would Attack the Mohawk River; but that they could not ascertain when it would be.

This Intelligence, thro' some other means, must have reached the General before that Letter was wrote; for on the 17th when the Brigade Major

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came down, as I mentioned before, to hasten up the Provincials, he likewise brought with him a disposition of those Troops, by which, so many of them were destined for the Protection of the Mohawk River, as, with the number that were there before, would make their strength consist in near 3000 Men.

But upon the 21st the day after I had received and forwarded Sir William Johnson's of the 18th, I received one of the preceding day from the General, Acquainting me, that from Rogers's Intelligence, and others, they were quite satisfied, nothing serious could be meant towards the Mohawk River; and that therefore I should Inform Sir William of it, and let him know, that he (the General) should expect to see him, and all that he had Collected, very soon at the Lake – further making an Excuse for his not writing himself, by reason of a relapse.

Sir William Johnsons Secretary being at Albany, and just setting out for Fort Johnson, when this Letter came to my hands. I communicated to him, that part of it which related to Sir William, made an Abstract of it, and beg'd of him to deliver it, which he accordingly

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did, as appears by Sir William Johnsons Answer of the 22d, received at Albany the Day following.

By this Answer, Sir William Johnson desires the General, to fix an Ultimate day for his joining him, and positive Orders, when he should March from his House — says, that he can be at Lake George in four days, and hopes that he (the General) will be able to afford him six or seven days longer here [meaning Fort Johnson].

This Application of Sir William's, for so long and further a delay, after having so often and repeatedly been enjoined to set out, and that to, at a time when the Aid and Assistance of him and his Indians was so necessary; did not a little Surprize the General, who by his reply of the 24th; has not only fully evinced his sense of it to Sir William, but has likewise added; that he himself proposed to be at the Lake on the 26th, and get every thing a float with all possible dispatch; that therefore Sir William had not a day to lose in Joining him; and that if he should fall down the Lake, he would leave boats for him to follow — he likewise desired to know the number he could bring; and concludes by telling him, that he should forward with his Indian Officers, those in readiness, and come

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with the last Column himself

Upon the 27.th in answer to the foregoing, Sir William Appollogizes for his not having been able to join the General sooner; tells him, that on the thursday [29.th] he will March from Fort Johnson, with such Indians as he could prevail on to go with him; that he cannot be certain what number that will be, but believes 200, and that more will follow him. — By postscript, he mentions the arrival of a French Prisoner, and encloses his Examination. Acquaints the General with the coming of M.r Croghan [his Deputy] who had left about One hundred Indians on the road, part of whom would be in the next morning, the rest at Night or the Morning following. — he likewise mentions the arrival, that day, of the Onondagas, Oneidas & Tuscaroras, and the Senecas being yet on the road: And Concludes with saying, that he had Acquainted all the Indians with him, of his determination to March on Thursday; that they had made several Speeches about it, but that he had told them he could stay no longer.

This Letter I forwarded immediately, by Express, to the General, but as I have yet had no return to it, I cannot say, whether Sir William

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Johnson has joined the General or not: but the very day that Sir William had appointed for his March, the Indian Interpreter, one Clements, came down to this place, and said, that Sir William was actually Marched with 450 Indians, and upon being Asked, how Sir William had been able to Collect so many? he replied, that it was owing, to the french having neither Provisions nor Presents to give them

The Prisoner mentioned above, was taken by a party of Mohawk Indians, above Montreal, and was sent down here; but upon my reExamining him, I could get nothing more out of him.— he has since been sent to New York, where he will be in greater Safety.

For Your further Information, I send You a Copy of the Questions put to that Prisoner with his Answers to each, as likewise Copies of the beforementioned Letters.

Every thing is very quiet up the Mohawk River, and Brigadier General Stanwix proposes to move up there himself in some few days.

Upon his arrival at this place, agreable to General Abercrombys directions, he forwarded, to Fort Edward, the Company of the Inneskilling Regi-ment, which were here, and soon after, Landed,

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from New York, the Company of the fourth Battal=
=ion of Royal Americans, which together with
part of Cruikshanks's Independent Company,
and about Sixty Men of the Additional Com=
=pany of Lord John Murrays, last from Antigoa,
is the present Force here; but part of them
are to move with Brigadier Stanwix when he
Sets out for the Mohawk River.

Your Letter of the 11th February, Enclosing
the duplicate of Mr. Pitts of the 27th January, was
received on the 10th of last Month, by the Leicester
Packet and I am charged by the General, to
beg the favor of You, to Express his great Con=
=cern, at the violent fit of the Gout Mr. Pitt was af=
=flicted with when Yours came away, of which he
has had no return.

I have the honor to be, with great Truth
and Respect,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
J. Appy.

Robert Wood Esqr.

Endorsed Albany July 2d. 1758. / Mr. Appy. / R.W.
/ Re Augt. 20th. by Capt. Cunningham.

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Schedule of Papers inclosed and referred to in Mr. Appy's Letter to Mr. Wood, dated Albany July 2d. 1758.

1. Letter from Gen. Abercromby to Mr. Secretary Pitt. June 29th.
2. Return of the Provincial Forces that have arrived at Albany from 4th. of June to 20th. inclusive. –
3. Letter from the Marques de Vaudreuil to the Commanding Officer at Fort Edward, June 5th. 1758.
4. Do. . . . . . . to M. G. Abercromby . . . . June 4th.
5. Sundry Papers enclosed and referred to in the foregoing Letter
6. General Orders relative to the Capitulation of Fort Wm. Henry – June 25th. 1758. –
7. G. Abercromby's Letter to the M. de Vaudreuil, June 26th.
8. Sr. W. Johnson to M. G. Abercromby – – – – June 18th.
9. Intelligence of an Indian, enclosed in the foregoing Letter.
10. Extract of a Letter from Mr. Croghan to Sr. Wm. Johnson. June 11th. enclosed in the foregoing.
11. Do. from Gen. Abercromby to Mr. Appy, June 20th.
12. Sr. Wm. Johnson to M. G. Abercromby – June 22d.
13. M. G. Abercromby to Sr. Wm. Johnson – – June 24th.
14. Sr. Wm. Johnson to M. G. Abercromby – June 27th.
15. Examination of a French Prisoner, enclosed in the foregoing

Endorsed Schedule of Papers enclosed and referred to in Mr. Appy's Letter to/Mr. Wood, dated Albany July 2d./1758.

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À Montreal le 5 Juin 1758.

Monsieur

J'ai l'honneur de vous addresser cy joint un Pacquet tres important qui contient mes depéches pour Son Excellence le General Abercromby. Je vous prie, Monsr. de vouloir bien le lui faire parvenir le plus dilegemment qu'il vous sera possible, et de me faire passer de même sa reponse au fort du Carillon.

Je suis très persuadé, Monsr. que vous ferés jouir l'Officier porteur de ma Lettre de la faveur düe à son Etat, et que vous prendrez les plus justes mesures pour assurer son Retour a Carillon, en luy accordant une Escorte convenable, pour qu'il soit à couvert de toute insulte des partis et detachemens des Sauvages dont vous vous servés.

Je donne ordre à cet Officier de diriger sa Route en se rendant prés de vous par le chemin le plus ordinaire, de ne point s'en ecarter, et d'avoir le Pavillon Anglois deployé. Vous aurés la bonté de donner de votre coté ordre à l'Officier que vous detacherés pour me porter la reponse du General Abercromby de ne point se detourner de la Route la plus ordinaire, et d'avoir un Pavillon François deployé. Vous devés etre convaincu qu'il sera bien reçu, et qu'il vous sera renvoyé sous bonne et seure Garde.

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Si vous avés des Lettres pour quelques uns des Anglois qui sont en mon pouvoir, vous pourres les mettre sous mon bouvert, et je me feray un plaisir de les leur faire remettre.

J'ai l'honneur d'être &c. &c.

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from the Marquis de / Vaudreuil to the Commanding Officer / at Fort Edward. / June 5th. 1758. / in Mr. Appy's of July 2d. 1758. / 3 — 1

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À Montreal le 4. Juin 1758.

Monsieur,

J'aurois eu l'honneur de repondre aux deux Lettres de Vôtre Excellence du 24 Avril, sitôt les avoir recuës, si je n'avois voulu avoir le plaisir de vous faire parvenir en même tems les Lettres que vous trouverés cy jointes par=-ticulièrement celles du Cap.^ne Pringle et du Lieutenant Roche Officiers du 27.e Reg.^t d'in=-fanterie de Sa Majesté Britannique; ces Messrs sont à Quebec. Je n'ay eu rien du plus pressé que de leur faire passer les deux Lettres, que vous m'avés addressées pour eux, ils sont bien traités, et ne sont même nullement genés. J'ai prévu à leur égard tout ce que votre excellence pouvoit desirer en leur donnant tout secours, et leur faisant avancer l'argent dont ils avoient besoin. Je fais pour ces Messrs ce que j'ai constamment fait envers tous les prisonniers que les hazards de la guerre m'ont procuré.

Je ne sçaurois, Monsieur, vous dissimuler combien j'ay été surpris en apprenant que sous pretexte de la proposition faite à votre excel=-lence par les Srs Corivaux, Le Grand et Parent d'être échangés contre le Colo.^l Schuyler de la

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milice de Jersey et le S.r Stakes, votre excellence a surci l'execution de leur parole d'honneur et celle du Cap.ne S.t Martin du Reg.t R.al Artillerie qui doivent être de retour à Carillon le 10. May dernier pour tout delay prefix. Je n'aurois jamais pensé que la facilité que j'accorday à ces trois Mess.rs eut eu de pareilles suites d'autant mieux qu'en supposant que cet echange fut faisable. vôtre excellence auroit pu me le proposer plutôt ou du moins le 22 Mars jour de la proposition de Corrivaux: Je ne penêtre pas dans les vuës que vous avés eu en differant jusqu'au 24. Avril. Je suis neanmoins persuadé que Mess.rs Schuyler et Martin aussi que le d.t S.r Stakes n'auroient pas manqué d'un instant à leur parole d'honneur, si votre Excellence n'y avoit mis empechement.

Au surplus, Monsieur, l'echange que vous me proposés est si peu admissible que le S.r Corrivau ainsy que le S.r de Fontenay et tous les autres Prisonniers François, Canadiens et Sauvages faits par terre depuis que vôtre nation a commencé la guerre dans l'Amerique Septentrionalle jusques au 9 Aoust de l'annee derniere recouvrerent dés ce jour entierement leur liberté aux termes de l'article 5. de la Capitulation du Fort Guillaume Henry

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Or borrivau et les autres prisonniers qui sont dans le même cas que luy n'avoient point d'autre demande à faire a votre excellence que leur Renvoy: telles ont du être leurs demarches, à moins qu'ils n'ayent eu aucune connoissance de la reddition et de la Capitulation du Fort Guillaume Henry

Cette Capitulation fut faite dans le tems que vôtre excellence commandoit en chef dans la nouvelle Angleterre, ainsi elle ne peut paroitre l'ignorer, outre que cette Capitulation a été generalement sçuë de vos troupes et de tous vos Colons: elle a encore assés fait de bruit par la generosité et l'humanité dont ma nation donna dans ce moment des preuves si sensibles a la vôtre.

Cependant, Monsieur, comme les Lettres que vous m'avés fait l'honneur de m'écrire donneroient à penser que votre nation veut agir par des principes directement contraires à cette Capitilation j'ay l'honneur de vous envoyer cy joint copie

1°. de cette Capitulation

2° de la Lettre que j'ecrivis a Milord Loudoun le 2. 7bre.

3°. de la parole d'honneur de Messrs Schuyler

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et Martin

4° de la Lettre que j'écrivis à milord Loudoun le 22. 8bre

5° de celle que j'écrivis le même jour au Commandant du Fort Edouard.

6° de la Lettre que Milord Loudoun m'écrivit le 8. 9bre

7° de la Lettre que j'écrivis en reponse à Milord Loudoun le 18. Janv^er

8° de la Lettre que j'écrivis le même jour au Commandant du fort Edouard.

9° de la Lettre que le commandant du dit Fort m'écrivit le 17. Fev^er

Toutes ces pièces, Monsr, vous ont vray semblablement été remises par Milord Loudoun. quoiqu'il en soit au moyen des expeditions que j'ay l'honneur de vous envoyer. vôtre excellence n'aura aucun eclaircissement à me demander ny (permettés-moi de le dire) aucun pretexte pour eluder le renvoy des Sujets du Roy mon maitre que vôtre nation detient injustement au mepris des Loix de la guerre et du droit des gens.

Pour ne pas user de Repetition je vous renouvelle, Monsr, les Lettres que j'ecrivis a Milord Loudoun, notamment celle du 18. Janv^er dans tout ce qu'elle contient, je prie Vôtre Excellence

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de vouloir bien y faire la plus serieuse attention

D'aprés cela je croirois superflu de vous sommer de renvoyer les sujets du Roy mon maitre. C'est à vous, Mons.r, à remplir sans delay les engagemens de vôtre nation de façon à me prouver qu'il ne reste pas un seul de ses Sujets dans aucune partie de la nouvelle Angleterre.

C'est aussi à vôtre excellence à faire partir en même tems M. Schuyler avec les gens qu'il a mené avec luy, M. Stakes et M. Martin; je somme ces Mess.rs de leur parole d'honneur, le congé étant expiré, je les re=clame a Votre Excellence comme prisonniers du Roy mon maitre, et je vous prie de leur enjoindre de partir sur le champ.

Nous voila, Mons.r, à l'ouverture de la Campagne, la satisfaction que je reclame à juste titre est de la plus grande importance pour vôtre nation; vous ne pourriés trouver extraordinaire que votre Conduite reglat mes demarches ulterieures. Mais je continueray suivant les intentions du Roy mon maitre à faire mon possible pour que nous fassions de part et d'autre la guerre avec humanité et que nous observions comme en Europe les regles du droit des gens autant que la necessité où

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nous nous trouvons mutuellement de nous servir de sauvages, me le permettra.

A l'égard des autres échanges je ne pourray repondre aux propositions de votre excellence qu'après que vous aurés executé l'article 5 de la Capitulation du Fort Guillaume Henry.

Agréés, Mons.r, que je vous recommande le petit nombre de François et Canadiens qui sont en votre pouvoir depuis le 9 Aoust dernier, je demande à votre excellence pour eux le même traitement, et le même agreement dont ont joüi et dont jouissent les Anglois qui sont en mon pouvoir.

Je ne reclame pas vos bontés en faveur de tous les autres prisonniers faits jusqu'au 9 Aoust, parceque je compte fermement sur leur renvoy.

Permettés, Mons.r que je joigne icy plusieurs Lettres, et que je vous prie de vouloir bien les faire passer a leur addresse; je souhaite qu'elles soient plus heureuses que celles que j'avois mis sous l'envellope de Milord Loudoun, n'ayant pas le moindre lieu de douter qu'elles n'ont pas été remises, attendu que le S.r de Fontenay et le S.r Corivau ne m'avisent point la reception de celles que je leur avois écrites.

Je seray, Mons.r toujours bien flaté d'être en correspondance avec Votre Excellence &c.

A. M. Abercromby Command.t general &c.

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Endorsed Copy / A Letter from the Marquis / de Vaudreuil to M. G. Abercromby / June 4th 1758 / in Mr. Appy's of July 2d 1758 / 4. 2.

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Articles de la Capitulation accordée au Lieutenant Colonel Monro pour la garnison de sa Majesté Britannique du Fort Guillaume Henry, du Camp retranché qui y est joint, et de ses dependances par le Mis de Montcalm General des Troupes de sa Majesté tres Chretienne en Canada le 9 Aout 1757.

Article 1.

La Garnison du Fort Guillaume Henry, et les Troupes qui sont dans le Champ retranché y joint, se retireront avec leurs Armes, et les autres honneurs de la guerre, le Bagage des Officiers, des Soldats seulement, ils se retireront au Fort Edouard escortés par un detachement de Troupes Francoises, et par quelques Officiers et Interpretes attachés aux Sauvages, et partiront demain matin de bonne heure.

Article 2.

La porte du Fort sera remise apres la signature de la Capitulation aux troupes de sa Majesté tres Chretienne, et le Camp retranché au moment du depart des Troupes de sa Majesté Britannique.

Article 3.

On remettera de bonne foy aux troupes de sa Majesté tres Chretienne, toute l'Artillerie

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munitions de guerre, et de Bouche. et generalement tout. excepté les éffets des Officiers et Soldats, ainsy qu'il est specifié dans le premier Article; et pour cet effet il sera remis avec la Capitu-lation un Inventaire exact des éffets mentionnés dans cet Article, en observant que cet article s'etend sur le Fort, Retranchements, et dependances.

Article 4.

La garnison du Fort, Camp retranché, et dependances, ne pouront servir de dix huit mois a commencer de ce jour, ny contre Sa Maj-esté tres Chretienne, ny contre ses Alliés, et l'on remettera avec la Capitulation un etat exact de ses troupes, ou sera compris le nom des Officiers Majors. autres Officiers, Ingenieurs Artilleurs, Commissaires et employés.

Article 5.

Dans le Cours de trois mois seront remis a Carillon tous les Officiers, Soldats, Canadiens, femmes, et Sauvages, pris par terre depuis le commencement de cette guerre dans l'Amerique Septentrionalle, et moyennant le Reçu des Com-mandans François, aux quels on les remettera, pareil nombre de la garnison du Fort Guillaume Henry pourra servir, suivant le Controle qui en sera remis par l'Officier Anglois qui conduira

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les Prisonniers.

Article 6.

Il sera donné un Officier pour Otage jusques au Retour du Detachement qui sera donné pour Escorte aux troupes de sa Majesté Britannique.

Article 7.

Tous les malades, blessés, hors d'etat d'être transportés au Fort Edouard, resteront à la garde du Mis. de Montcalm qui en prendra le Soin convenable, et les renverra aussitôt apres leurs guerisons.

Article 8.

Il ne sera pris des Vivres pour la sub=sistance des dts Troupes, que pour aujourd'huy et demain.

Article 9.

Le Marquis de Montcalm voulant donner au Lieutenant Colonel Monro, et a sa garnison des marques de son Estime par raport à leur deffense honnorable, leur accorde un piece de Canon du Calibre de Six.

Fait dans la tranchée sous le Fort William Henry, le 9 Aout 1757, à Midy / Signé à l'Original

Geo. Monro Lt. Colo. 35 Regt.
audit Commandant of his Majestys
Forces in & near Fort William Henry.

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accordé au nom de sa
Majesté tres Chretienne,
suivant le pouvoir, que j'en
ay du Marquis de Vaudreuil
Son Governeur, et Lieutenant
General dans la Nouvelle
France, Signé à l'Original
Montcalm.

Endorsed Copy / Articles of the Capitulation of / Fort William Henry — / Aug.st 9th 1757 / Enclosed in Mr Vaudreuil's of June 4th / 1758 / in Mr Cappy's of July 2d 1758 / 3.

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A Montreal le 2. Septembre 1757.

Milord,

M. le Marquis de Montcalm m'a rendu compte de la Lettre qu'il a écrit à vôtre Excellence le 14. de mois dernier (sous le couvert de General Webb) pour l'instruire de tout ce qui concerne la Capitulation (dont copie est cy jointe) qu'il accorda le 9. du même mois en vertu du pouvoir que je lui en avois donné, a la garnison de Fort William Henry, et aux troupes qui etoient dans le champ retranché y joint.

Je n'ay rien à ajouter à ce qu'il a marqué a votre Excellence sur ce qui s'est passé de la part des Sauvages.

Il est bien facheux, Milord, que les troupes de Sa Majesté Britannique se soient (quelques instances qu'on aye pu leur faire) obstinées à vouloir prematurer l'heure arrêtée pour leur depart, et que quelques Soldats Anglois ayent eu l'imprudence de donner aux Sauvages des Boissons enivrantes, malgré qu'on eut expressement recommandé de les répendre.

Le Lieutenant Colonel Monro son etat Major, et generalement tous les Officiers de la garnison et du champ retranché qui ont été conduits sous bonne et sure Escorte au Fort Edouard, ne doivent pas

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avoir laissé ignorer à Votre Excellence, que M. le Mis de Montcalm et les principaux Officiers François ont exposé leur personnes pour mettre les Anglois à couvert de l'insulte des Sauvages.

Ces Messrs, Milord, se sont en cela conformés à la generosité que j'ay constament exercé envers les prisonniers Anglois que j'ay rachepté des Sauvages l'annee derniere et la precedente: Votre Excellence n'a pu qu'en avoir connoissance par ceux que je renvoyay l'automne dernier à l'ancienne Angleterre.

M. Frech Capitaine de Royal Americains, qui avoit été donné en Otage par l'article 6. de la Capitulation, a été temoin des peines que je me suis donné pour prevenir les suites de la ferocité des Nations sauvages, et pour retirer de leurs mains les Anglois de la Capitulation du Fort William Henry, et même tous ceux de la garnison de ce Fort qui furent pris par ces Sauvages quelque tems avant sa reddition dans le Combat où le detachement du Colonel Parker fut defait. J'ay fait habiller et bien traiter tous les prisonniers; je n'ay point été arrêté en cela par les sommes considerables qu'il en a couté au Roy pour ces rachapts, ny par les depenses qui en sont inseparables.

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Je ne perds pas un instant pour renvoyer à Vôtre excellence à Alifax par divers Parlementaires M. Freche et les Anglois de la garnison et du retranchement du Fort William Henry. Ils m'ont tous demandé a prendre cette route pour leur plus grande seureté, celle du Lac St. Sacrement étant très risquable à cause des Sauvages.

Je satisfaits par le renvoy de ces Anglois a l'Article premier de la Capitulation.

À l'égard des autres Anglois dont j'ay l'honneur de vous parler, que j'ay aussi rachepté des Sauvages (qui vouloient absolument les garder en leur pouvoir, attendu qu'ils n'ont aucun raport à la Capitulation) ils resteront prés de moi comme prisonniers de guerre. Je suis bien flaté d'avoir eu cette occasion pour donner à votre excellence une nouvelle preuve de l'humanité et la generosité dont la nation Françoise fait en tout tems profession, quoique je sois très convaincu de la justice qu'elle lui rend à cet égard.

J'addresse au Commandant d'Alifax le Role des Anglois que je renvoye a votre Excellence, il lui en rendra compte, j'espere qu'elle voudra bien faire joüir ces batimens de la faveur ordinaire accordée aux Parlementaires et qui leur

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est acquise de droit.

Les temoignages de M. Freche me sont très suffisans pour justifier a Vôtre excellence et même à toute l'Europe que j'ay fait dans une conjuncture aussi delicate que l'independance et le caprice des nations sauvagesson egalement reconnües, tout ce que je devize suivant les loix de la guerre, et le penchant que le François a naturellement à secourir les malheureux.

Les Sentimens, Milord, dont je suis penetré en faveur des Anglois, les preuves que j'en ay donné, et que je rentre avec plaisir a votre Excellence me sont un sur garand de son exactitude et de sa ponctualité à executer l'article 5. de la Capitulation, et c'est relativement a cet article que j'ay l'honneur de vous prier, Milord, de vouloir bien renvoyer avant l'expiration du delay fixé par cet Article sous bonne escorte à Carillon, les prisonniers François, Canadiens et Sauvages de tout sexe qui sont dans les provinces de la nouvelle Angleterre, depuis le commencement de la guerre ou des hostilités dans l'Amerique Septentrionalle, particulierement M. le Baron de Longueil dont vos Mess.rs m'ont donné des nouvelles, les S.rs la Coste et Faucher Officiers de Milice qui furent pris le 8 Septre 1755 dans l'affaire de M. le

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Baron de Dieskaw

Il ne reste maintenant en mon pouvoir que les Anglois blessés ou malades dont cy joint la liste, que j'ay aussi remis a M. Freche: je les garderai jusqu'a leur parfaite guerison, et alors je les renverrai a votre Excellence suivant l'article 7 de la Capitulation; j'en fais prendre grand soin. M. Hasbé Capitaine va beaucoup mieux, et j'espere qu'on lui sauvera la jambe.

Je continuerai à cercher les moyens les plus solides pour rendre cette guerre la moins cruelle que la necessité où votre excellence est tout comme moi, de se servir des nations sauvages, peut le permettre; je ne neglige rien pour mettre un frein à leur ferocité. Je ne doute pas que votre excellence ne pense et n'agisse de même, mais je dois avoir l'honneur de la prevenir que si nos prisonniers ne recouvroient incessament leur liberté, il y auroit lieu de craindre que les Sauvages qui la desirent, se porteroient dans la suite aux dernieres extremités contre les prisonniers Anglois qu'ils pourroient faire.

J'approuve la lettre que M. le Mis de Montcalm a ecrit à votre Excellence à l'occasion du Lt. Col. Young, pour qu'il prit non obstant la Capitulation, exercer les fonctions civiles de

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Gouverneur de la Virginie, je ne puis que lui en sçavoir bon gré, puisque je me serois moimême prêté à lui procurer cette facilité.

Je serai toujours charmé de donner personellement à votre Excellence des marques de la consideration que j'ay pour elle, et des Sentimens respectueux avec lesquels j'ai l'honneur d'être &c. &c.

A Milord Loudoun.

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from the Marquis de / Vaudreuil to The Earl of Loudoun. / Sep 2d 1757. / Enclosed in Mr Vaudreuil's of June 4th / 1758. — / in Mr Appy's of July 2d 1758. / 4.

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Nous Peter Schuyler Colonel du Regiment Nouvelle Jersey Milice de la Nouvelle Angleterre, pris par les François à Chouaguen l'année der-nière; et William Martin Capitaine Lieutenant d'Artillerie pris dans la partie de l'Accadie par les Sauvages en 1756, Prisonniers de Guerre au pouvoir et aux ordres de M. le Mis de Vaudreuil Commandeur de l'Ordre Royal et Militaire de St Louis, Gouverneur Lieutenant General pour le Roi en toute la Nouvelle France, terres et pays de la Louisiane, Donnons nôtre parole d'honneur a mon dt Sr le Mis de Vaudreuil de ne point servir directement ni indirectement, ni faire aucune fonction relativement a nôtre grade militaire pendant le sejour que nous ferons dans la nouvelle Angleterre en vertu de la permission que mon dt Sr le Mis de Vaudreuil nous a accordée de ne nous occuper dans le dt pays que de nos affaires propres et particulieres, et d'etre de retour a Carillon le dix du mois de May prochain pour tout delai prefix. Et nous Schuyler de ramener les mêmes personnes que mon dt. le Mis de Vaudreuil nous a permis de mener avec nous, nous obligeant expressement de faire escorter M. Langy de Montegron, les Sauvages et le Canadien qui sont avec lui à leur retour et de les mettre a

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couvert de toute insulte de la part des Sauvages. En foy de quoy nous nous sommes signés. Fait à Quebec le Vingt deux Octobre mil sept cent cinquante sept. signé Peter Schuyler et William Martin.

Endorsed Parole of Col. Schuyler and/Capt. Martin /Oct. 22. 1757. /Enclosed in Mr. Vaudreuil's of June 4th /1758. — / in Mr. Appy's of July 2. 1758. /5.

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A Quebec le 22 Octobre 1757.

My lord,

Je suis très persuadé que vôtre excellence est maintenant instruite du procedé genereux que j'ay eu cette année commes les precedentes, non seulement envers les Anglois provenant de la garnison du Fort William Henry et du retranchement y joint, mais même envers tous les Anglois qui ont été jusques a present en mon pouvoir. Les premiers comme compris dans la Capitulation que M. le Mis de Montcalm accorda en vertu du pouvoir que je lui en avois donné, au Colonel Monro, doivent vous être parvenus avec la lettre que j'ay eu l'honneur d'ecrire à vôtre excellence par M. Freiche à l'egard des seconds, j'ay toujours le même empressement pour les renvoyer à l'ancienne Angleterre; et il n'en reste presque point dans cette Colonie.

Je suis aussi plus que convaincu que vôtre excellence a fait renvoyer a Carillon les prisonniers de tout Sexe, François, Canadiens et Sauvages conformement à l'article 5. de la dte Capitulation, et je ne doute pas même d'un instant qu'ils ne soient déja tous arrivés, notamment M. le Baron de Longueuil M. de Belletre, M. de Fontenay Cadet dans nos troupes, et Mr

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la Coste et Gaucher Officiers de Milice.

Je suis, Milord, extremement flaté lorsque je trouve occasion d'obliger les Anglois. Vous avez pu être informé du plaisir que j'ay à les saisir. J'en ay un bien grand à en donner une nouvelle preuve à votre excellence par la permission que j'accorde à Mrs Schuyler Colonel d'un Regiment de Milice, et a M. Martin Lt d'artillerie sous les condition portées par la parole d'honneur qu'ils m'ont donné par ecrit, dont cy joint Copie, d'aller dans la nouvelle Angleterre, pour y vacquer a leurs affaires, je leur fais fournir les Vivres et tout ce que leur est necessaire. Je donne ordre au Commandant du Fort de Carillon de les faire escorter par un detachement jusqu'aprés leur embarquement sur le lac St Sacrement.

Je suis dans la confiance, Mylord, que je ne tarderay pas à recevoir des nouvelles de votre excellence. Je desire que M. de Montegron Officier que j'ay chargé du commandement des Sauvages et Canadiens qui conduisent ces Messieurs, aye la liberté d'aller jusqu'à Orange, et qu'il puisse mêmey attendre vôtre reponse. Vous voudrés bien, Milord, le faire escorter et mettre a couvert de toute insulte, ainsy que Mrs Schuyler et Martin s'y sont obligés

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par leur parole d'honneur.

Dans quelques circonstances, My Lord, que vous et moy puissions-nous trouver pendant cette guerre j'auray une vraye satisfaction à vous assurer de l'attachement sincere avec lequel j'ay l'honneur d'être &c. &c.

Milord Loudoun.

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from the Marquis de / Vaudreuil to the Earl of Loudoun. / October 22d 1757 / Enclosed in Mr Vaudreuil's of June 4th 1758 / in Mr Appy's of July 2d 1758. / 6.

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Copie de la Lettre écritte par Monsr. le Marquis de Vaudreuil au Commandant du Fort Lydius. De Quebec le 22 Octobre 1757

Monsieur,

M. le Marquis de Montcalm ne manqua pas de me rendre Compte de la Lettre qu'il vous écrivit aprés la reddition du Fort William Henry: Je luy sçus très bon gré des Soins qu'il s'étoit donné pour vous renvoyer les Anglois de la garnison de ce Fort qui etoient en son pouvoir; de mon coté je retirerai a prix d'argent des mains de Sauvages, ceux qu'ils avoient gardé, et qu'ils vouloient absolument mené dans leur villages. Vous avés pu savoir Monsr. que j'ay renvoyé tous ces Anglois avec M. Hesch à Alifax.

J'ai aussi renvoyé a la vieille Angleterre les autres prisonniers faits de differens cotés, et maintenant il n'en reste presque plus dans la Colonie.

Les preuves que j'ai deja donné et que je donne chaque jour de ma generosité envers les Anglois me persuadent que vous aurés bien voulu Monsr. concourir au prompt Renvoy a Carillon de tous les Prisonniers François, Canadiens et Sauvages conformement à l'article 5 de la Capitulation accordée au Colonel Monro par M. le Marquis de

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Montcalm, en vertu du pouvoir que je luy en avois donné. Je ne doute pas même qu'ils ne soient tous actuellement arrivés, notament M. le Baron de Longeüil, M. de Béletre, M. de Fontenay Cadet dans nos Troupes, et Mrs la Côte et Gaucher Officiers de milice.

Je suis trés flaté, Monsr, lorsque je trouve l'occasion d'obliger les Anglois; aussi ai-je saisi avec plaisir celle que Mrs Schuyler et Martin m'ont offert, et je leur ai permis d'aller à la nouvelle Angleterre pour y vaquer a leur Affaires aux conditions portées par la parole d'honneur qu'ils m'ont donné.

J'ai chargé M de Langy Montgueon d'accompagner ces Messrs jusques à leur arrivées dans vôtre Fort, et même jusques à Orange, si vous n'y trouvés aucun obstacle. Du reste je leur ai accordé toutes les facilités qui ont dependu de moi, et je fais pourvoir à leur approvisionnement de poste à poste, je donne ordre au Commandant du Fort du Carillon de les faire escorter jusques apres leur embarquement sur le Lac Sacrement.

Vous pensés bien, Monsr, que je profite de cette occasion pour écrire à Mylord Loudoun, et que je souhaite que M. De Langey ne revienne point sans me porter de vos nouvelles, et des

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siennes, vous voudrés bien lui procurer a son retour une escorte ainsi que Mrs Schuyler et Martin i y sont obligé par leur parole d'honneur.

J'ai l'honneur d'être &c. &c.

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from the Marquis de Vaudreuil to the Commanding Officer at Fort Edward. — / October 22d. 1757. — / Enclosed in Mr. Vaudreuil's of June 4th 1758 / in Mr. Appy's of July 2d. 1758. / 7.

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Fort Edward Nov.r 8. 1757.

Sir,

Last night I had the Honour of Your Excellency's Letter of Octob.r 22. by Mons.r Montesqeon and with him Col.o Schuyler & Lt Martin — And I have sent back to the Lake the said Officer with his party with a proper Escort; as I would lose no time in answering your Letter.

As to the Capitulation, notwithstanding the most extraordinary Breach of it by your Troops carrying off the whole of the Baggage, belonging to the Officers & Soldiers, & the King's Arms; & afterwards by the most inhuman murders, not only of the Sick, but of many others, and likewise by the great numbers of both Sexes, that were carried off Prisoners, in direct violation of the Capitulation.

And altho' I attribute these Breaches of the Capitulation to the Army in general, You will agree with me, that if a General serves at the head of Troops he cannot command, he is not in a Capacity to make a Capitulation.

And here I cannot avoid taking notice of a direct Breach of the Capitulation in the Marquis de Moncalm's own person, in making Captain Fash a Prisoner, & carrying him with him.

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Notwithstanding of which I have hitherto adhered strictly to the Capitulation in expectation that you would have instantly returned to me here, the Place stipulated by the Capitulation, all the Prisonners of both Sexes, the King's my Masters Arms, and the Cloaths & Baggage of the Officers & Soldiers, with all those concerned in the Robberies & Murders, to be punished at my Discretion.

Notwithstanding of my hitherto adhering to the Capitulation, I am extremely sensible of the Weight of what the Marquis de Montcalm writes to me in his Letter of August 14th in these words "Therefore I beg Your Lordship will "see the Capitulation fulfilled in every respect; "the least Omission under the smallest pretence, "would be to you, more than to us, of the out- "most unhappy Consequences."

Mons.r Moncalm has certainly not been then informed, that the King my Master has in his possession One hundred Thousand of the King his Master's Subjects now Prisoners.

As to what you call the 5th Article in the Capitulation, I know of no Capitulation, but that in English signed by Lt. Col. Monro, and I find there none to form so strong a Claim

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upon; if there were, it was beyond the Colonel's power, nay, Sir, it is beyond mine to grant, and of course it must be null in itself.

So far I have strictly adhered to the Capitulation — What is to follow depends on the satisfaction you now make me, which I listen to, in order to shew you, that I chuse to carry on the War with strict Faith between the Nations, and the greatest humanity to Particulars

Whatever troops you bring to the field, are to me French, therefore any part of them breaking thro' the Rules of War will immediately lay me under the disagreeable necessity to treat the whole of your people in the same manner.

From Your Excellency's Abilities and knowledge of the World, I flatter myself these things will not continue on the present cruel footing, as you must see from this Letter, what a wide Step I have taken on my part to establish the War in America on an European footing.

As to the particular people Your Excellency enquires about, they were Prisoners in the possession of the different Governours of Provinces, before my Arrival, and as I have had no Complaints from them, I have never taken

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any particular Account of them, but as soon as I return to the Sea Coast, I shall call for a Return of them that I may be enabled to let you know where they are.

Enclosed I transmit Your Excellency some Letters, that were put into my hands the Contents of which I shall not trouble your Excellency upon, till we have settled the main point.

I have not yet had the honour to receive the Letter You have writ to me by the way of Louisbourg, probably the Storm your Fleet met with on the 24 & 25th Septr may have prevented their forwarding it.

P. S.

Since writing the above I have discovered, that one of the Indians that are come in this Detachment has been guilty of such a notorious Breach of publick Faith, that I should have hang'd him, wherever I had met him. But as I must suppose you knew nothing of this, I have returned him, but must beg You will give Orders that no Men in that Situation are ever sent with any Flagg of Truce. — The Man I mean wants the tip of his Thumb. —

Marquis de Vaudreuil.

Endorsed Copy / of a Letter from the Earl of Loudoun to the Marquis de / Vaudreuil — / Nov. 8th 1757 / Enclosed in Mr Vaudreuil's of the 1st June 1758 / in Mr Appy's of July 2d 1758. / 8.

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A Montreal le 18 Janvier 1758.

Mylord,

J'ay reçû la Lettre que Vôtre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'ecrire le 8. 9.bre jusques à ce moment nombre de Lettres que j'avois écrites à M. Shirley, à d'autres Gouverneurs, et même au Colonel Johnson, avoient resté sans reponse ; je ne puis qu'être surpris de leur silence, parce que je les informois du bon traitement de leurs prisonniers.

J'aurois eu, Milord, l'honneur de repondre plutôt à la Lettre de vôtre excellence, si conformement à ce que vous m'avez fait celui de me marquer, je n'avois esperé de recevoir dans peu de vos nouvelles ; mais comme elles tardent, je les previens avec la satisfaction que je trouve à être en correspondance avec vous, persuadé que la vôtre ne sera pas moins grande, tout ce que j'ay fait, et fais journellement, suivant les intentions du Roy mon Maître, en faveur des Anglois qui sont en mon pouvoir, devant vous avoir convaincu de l'humanité et de la generosité naturelle à la nation Françoise, quoique dans le fond, Milord, cette guerre aye pris naissance des hostilités et des infractions de votre nation aux traités de paix de

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nos Roys; ces mêmes sentimens sont inviolables en moi, et jamais, Milord, ils ne differeront de ceux que vous me faites l'honneur de me temoigner.

Il est bien facheux que la Lettre (dont duplicata est cy joint) que j'eus l'honneur d'écrire a vôtre excellence le 2. 7bre par le Capitaine Fesche (qui ne partit de Quebec que le 25 du même mois) ne vous fut point parvenüe, lorsque vous m'aves fait l'honneur de m'écrire; elle doit l'être mainte=nant, vous aurés par consequent appris de M. Fesche, que l'imprudence de certains de vos Soldats (qui quelque chose qu'on leur dit) donnerent des boissons aux Sauvages, et la precipitation avec laquelle vos troupes sortirent du retranchement avant qu'elles fussent sous nôtre escorte, furent cause que ces Sauvages étant yvrés, franchirent les bornes que M. le Mis de Montcalm avoit mis à leur fureur.

Je dois même avoir l'honneur de vous observer que l'emportement de ces Sauvages eut aussi pour principe le ressentiment des Abenakis et Panaouamskis de la trahison des Anglois de la garnison du Fort St. George du côté de Narun=chouak qui defirent 4 de leurs gens, qui etoient allés leur faire des propositions de paix.

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Mais quelque put être le motif de ces Sauvages, le mal ne fut pas grand, et votre nation ne doit point oublier, qu'elle en a l'obligation au zele avec lequel M. le Mis de Montcalm, le Chevalier de Levis, de Regaud de Vaudreuil, de Bourlamaque à la tête de tous nos Officiers et Grenadiers, couvriront de leur propre personne, les Anglois menacés.

Je suis surpris, Milord, que des faits si réels ayent pu vous être cachés, ce que je ne puis attribuer qu'à la crainte que les troupes reglés ont eu de se mettre dans le cas d'avoüer a votre excellence qu'au premier cry des Sauvages qui n'etoient point armés, elles abandonneront non seulement leur baguge mais même leur Armes, quoiqu'elles eussent la Bayonette au bout de leur fusil. Je vous laissé à penser, Milord, les Suites d'une pareille timidité, vis a vis des nations qui ne se prevalent que trop de la foiblesse de leur ennemy, et l'embarras où elle plongea les Officiers François.

Je puis même ajouter que ces nations n'auroient pu prendre aucun Anglois, s'ils ne s'etoient livrés d'eux-mêmes, aussi ne fut-ce qu'avec bien des peines, et à grands frais que je les retiray de leurs mains.

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Bien loin que M. le Mis de Montcalm retint a titre de prisonnier le Captaine Fesche. ce ne fut que du consentement et à la priere du Sr Colo Monro qu'il le garda prés de lui, pour être constament temoin de mon activité à retirer des Sauvages les Anglois du fort William Henry. compris ou non compris dans la Capitulation, de leur bon traitement, et de mon empressement à vous les faire parvenir ce Capitaine m'a luy même assuré de la reconnoissance que vôtre nation en auroit à la mienne notamant des nouveaux frais que je ferois au Roy, à sa sollicitation en vous ren=voyant ces Anglois par Alifax, pour leur propre Seureté, aucun d'eux n'ayant voulu reprendre par Carillon la route du fort Edouard.

Vous ne pouvés donc, Milord, reclamer les Bagages et Armes de cette garnison, moins encore exiger que je vous livre les auteurs de la pretendüe infraction. il m'est imposible de les connoitre, d'ailleurs vous n'ignorés pas quel est leur genie, et leur independance, par la necessité où vous êtes de vous en servir tout comme moi; ainsy, Mylord, loin de penser que vous ne voulés point executer la Capitulation, je suis au contraire dans la confiance qu'elle sera aussi inviolable de la part de votre excellence,

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qu'elle l'a été de la mienne.

L'Article 5. de la Capitulation (dont cy joints une nouvelle copie) est conçu en mêmes termes en Anglois qu'en François, ils ont l'un et l'autre la même precision pour le Renvoy à Carillon, de tous les François, Canadiens et Sauvages de tout sexe qui sont en votre pouvoir; cet Article n'a rien en luy que de tres licite: En effet, Milord, l'echange des prisonniers peut se faire dans tous les tems, parcequ'il est egalement avantageux aux deux nations, qui recouvrent l'une et l'autre le même nombre d'hommes.

Le Lt. Colo. Monro n'a donc fait dans le moment le plus critique, que ce qu'il est permis de faire en tout tems de gré à gré.

Or le dit Article 5. ne peut être nul, surtout si vous voulés bien considerer que le Fort William Henry (quelqu'opiniatre qu'eut pu être la defence de Lieut. Colo. Monro) ne pouvoit éviter d'être pris d'assault, et que dans cette circonstance votre nation reçut une nouvelle preuve de la generosité de la mienne.

D'aprés toutes ces raisons, et aprés avoir de mon coté exactement et inviolablement executé les Articles qui me concernent de la Capitulation, et même fait beaucoup

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au dela pour le Renvoy de nombre d'Anglois qui se sont faussement dits de la garnison du Fort William Henry; il est de mon devoir, Mylord, de sommer votre Excellence de faire partir 8 jours aprés la reception de ma Lettre, tous et chacun les François, Canadiens et Sauvages des deux sexes, pour se rendre a Carillon aux termes du d.t article 5.

Je compte, Milord, fermement sur le Renvoy de prisonniers que je reclame à juste titre, je donne ordre a l'Officier que je detache pour vous porter ma Lettre, de la remettre au Commandant du Fort Edouard, que je prie de vous la faire parvenir en dilligence, et de me faire passer de même vôtre reponse qui reglera ma conduite ulterieure.

Vous voyéz, Milord, que quoique le delay de trois mois, porté par le d' article 5, soit expiré, je vous invite neanmoins à y satisfaire. Mon principal Objet en cela est de continuer à faire comme vous le souhaittés la guerre entre les deux nations avec la moderation dont les peuples policés se font une loy, et avec la plus grande humanité vis-a-vis des particuliers, telle est la façon dont j'ay constament agi, mal-gré les infractions reiterés de votre nation, non

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seulement aux loix de la guerre, mais même au droit des gens. Il me suffit de rapeller à votre excellence.

1° L'assassinat de M. de Junonville Officier qui fut defait en 1754, avec une partie de son detachement par celui, à la tête du quel etoit le Major Washington, tandis qu'il lui fesoit part des vües pacifiques de la mission dont il etoit chargé.

2° L'inexecution de la Capitulation accordée la même année à la garnison du Fort de la Necessité.

3° La Conduite des deux Otages remis pour la seureté de cette Capitulation qui violerent le devoir de leur etat, et ce qu'ils se devoient à eux memes.

Je me flate donc, Milord, que vous ne negligerés rien pour etablir en Amerique, la guerre sur le même pied qu'elle se fait en Europe, et je desiré que les sages mesures que vous prenés à cet egard ne soient point infructueuses

Je ne dois pas vous cacher, Milord, que l'inexecution de la Capitulation du Fort William Henry auroit deja eu des Suites trés facheuses pour votre nation, si je n'y avois prevu; j'ay

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icy nombre d'Anglois de tout Sexe pris le 13. Novembre dans le Canton des Palatins sur la riviere des Iroquois qui ont echapé à la fureur des Sauvages, même de ceux des 5 Nations, par les soins que le Commandant et les Officiers du Detachement se sont donnés pour leur Conservation, par l'attention que j'ai eu a les retirer des Sauvages aux frais du Roy, et à leur procurer le meilleur traitement. Vous trouverez même cy joint, Milord, une Lettre que le Sr. Germain flatte juge dans le dit Canton des Palatins écrit à un de ses amis, facilité que j'ai toujours accordé aux Anglois qui me l'ont demandée.

J'ai sçu que notre flote etoit dans le Port de Louisbourg, qu'elle n'avoit souffert aucun dommage de la tempête du 24. au 25 Septembre; il n'en a pas été, Milord, de meme de la vôtre. plusieurs de vos vaisseaux de guerre se sont brisés, sans doute que les autres auront beaucoup souffert, quelques Soldats et matelots qui ont echapé de ce naufrage sont arrivés à Louisbourg où ils ont été très bien traités.

J'ignore le nombre des Prisonniers de ma nation qui peuvent être au pouvoir du Roy votre Maitre, mais je sçais positivement que le

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mier a des votres, plus qu'il ne luy en faut pour les echanger: je suis aussi instruit des pertes que la grande Bretagne, et ses Alliés ont éprouvé cette Campagne, cependant je n'entre-prens pas de vous en entretenir.

Je ne connois ny n'ay vu le Sauvage dont vous vous plaignés: J'accordai a Mess.rs Schuyler et Martin, ceux qu'ilsavoient choisis eux mêmes; et pour leur plus grande Sureté, je les fis accompagner d'un Officier: il auroit été dangereux pour votre nation que vous eussiés fait prendre ce sauvage, vous sçavés, Milord, que sa nation et toutes les autres ont en pareil cas les mêmes Sentimens de Vengeance, vous m'auriés mis dans un embarras d'autant plus grand qu'il m'auroit été impossible de contenir ces Nations.

Permettés, Milord, que je joigne icy quelques Lettres à cachet volant, je vous prie de vouloir bien les faire passer a leur adresse, je vous offre la même attention pour celles que je recevray sous votre couvert.

J'attendray avec impatience, Milord, la reponse de votre Excellence, je la recevray avec autant de plaisir que j'en ay à vous assurer du Respect avec lequel j'ay l'honneur

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d'etre &c. &c.

P. S.

Je souhaite, Milord, que M. Harbé que le commandant du Carillon a renvoyé a votre Excellence jouisse de la plus parfaite Santé. Je ne doute pas qu'il n'aye eu l'honneur de vous rendre compte des Attentions et des Soins qu'on a eu pour luy jusqu'a ce que la blessure qu'il avoit à sa jambe ait été guerie, et qu'il ait été en etat de partir pour le Fort Edouard.

Endorsed Copy / A Letter from the Marquis / de Vaudreuil to the E. of Loudoun / Jan: 18th 1758. / Enclosed in Mr. Vaudreuil's of the 4th June 1758. / in Mr. Appy's of July 2d 1758. / 9.

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